SB 100 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/13, 2/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Repeals statutes directing fuel oil dealers to prepare a residential energy conservation program. Makes conforming changes in program definitions. Directs that moneys received from petroleum supplier assessment be deposited in Oil-Heated Dwellings Energy Account. Specifies Account to be used to fund provision of Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) information, assistance and technical advice to residential customer of fuel oil dealers, cash payments to dwelling owner or contractor for energy conservation measures, and program administration and enforcement. Authorizes ODOE to adopt policies and procedures for administration and enforcement by rule. Makes conforming changes to statute authorizing tax credit allowed to commercial lending institution making energy conservation loans. Takes effect on 91st day after sine die.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Background on SHOW program
- SHOW funds have been distributed throughout state but are concentrated outside urban areas
- ODOE contracts with Department of Consumer and Business Services to staff customer service line; number of calls has declined

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Residential Energy Conservation Act of 1981 made basic energy conservation services available to all Oregon households. The Act required investor-owned and publicly-owned utilities to provide energy audits, grants and loans to their space heating customers. The Act also directed the Oregon Department of Energy to offer similar incentives to households that received space heating from a fuel oil dealer through the State Home Oil Weatherization (SHOW) program. SHOW serves these Oregon households by providing assistance and technical advice for saving energy at home. Under the program, ODOE provides cash payments to homeowners who purchase and install energy conservation measures. ODOE also provides cash payments for households at or below eligibility levels that receive weatherization and energy conservation measure services from a Community Action Agency or other agencies serving low-income households. Funding for the SHOW program is provided annually by six petroleum suppliers operating in Oregon in accordance with ORS 469.681, and is limited to \$400,000 per year by ORS 469.681.

Senate Bill 100 would update statutes governing the SHOW program.