

HB 2236 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Energy and Environment

Action Date: 04/12/17
Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote: 9-0-0-0
Yeas: 9 - Barnhart, Bentz, Helm, Holvey, Johnson, Marsh, Power, Reschke, Smith DB
Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: No revenue impact
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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Department of Environmental Quality (Department) to conduct study and develop recommendations related to emissions of air contaminants from industrial sources. Requires Department to present results of study to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to environment and natural resources no later than September 15, 2018. Sunsets December 31, 2018. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Department of Environmental Quality and Oregon Health Authority Cleaner Air Oregon process
- Oregon's relative share of manufacturing employment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 1955, Congress enacted the first air quality legislation with the passage of the Air Pollution Control Act. Major amendments in 1970, 1977 and 1990 resulted in what is known as the Clean Air Act (CAA). The CAA addresses ambient air quality standards, toxic air pollutants, new source performance standards and new source review—the latter requiring the best available technology in air pollution control equipment for facilities that are major sources of contaminants. The Environmental Protection Agency defines air pollution as "the presence of contaminants or pollutant substances in the air that interfere with our health or welfare, or produce other harmful environmental effects."

House Bill 2236 would direct the Department of Environmental Quality to conduct a study on air contaminants from industrial sources, develop recommendations and deliver a report to the Legislative Assembly.