

SB 339 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Thomsen

Senate Committee On Business and Transportation

Action Date: 04/17/17

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 4-1-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Beyer, Monroe, Riley, Thomsen

Nays: 1 - Girod

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Caps electricity generated by any single biomass facility that may be used to meet the requirement that a certain percent of electricity in the state be generated by small-scale renewable energy projects or biomass facilities. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Measure designed to clarify what can be counted as renewable energy, not cap biomass energy production
- No intention to decrease biomass energy production
- Effect of proposed amendments

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

References renewable energy sources as defined in ORS 469A.025 in section 1(2)(a). Clarifies language in section 1(3) regarding single facility nameplate capacity.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 469A.210 specifies that, by the year 2025, at least eight percent of the aggregate electrical capacity of all electric companies that sell electricity to 25,000 or more customers must be generated by small-scale renewable energy projects with generating capacity of 20 megawatts or less, or by facilities that generate electricity through biomass that also generates thermal energy for secondary purposes.