

**HB 2560 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Agriculture and Land Use**

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**Prepared By:** Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/21

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) to study methods to mitigate impacts of technology towers on aesthetics. Requires that the study include: an identification of areas where technology towers impact the aesthetics of waterways, farm or forest lands, or tourism areas; an evaluation of how impacts in identified areas affect quality of life and tourism; the development of standards to mitigate impacts on the aesthetics of identified areas for adoption by planning commissions and local governments; and the establishment of a schedule for planning commissions and local governments to implement and enforce the standards by January 1, 2027. Requires DLCD submit a report on the progress of the study by September 15, 2019. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

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

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

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Communication towers are used for many types of electronic communication including radio, cellular, emergency medical services, and global positioning satellite technology. The dramatic increase in demand for cellular phones, wireless e-mail, and Internet access over the past few decades has resulted in a sharp increase in total technology towers built in Oregon and across the United States.

House Bill 2560 would direct DLCD to study methods to mitigate impacts of technology towers on aesthetics.