

**HB 2890 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**House Committee On Economic Development**

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**Meeting Dates:** 3/20

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Allows Oregon Business Development Department to hire attorney for purpose of prosecuting patent for any invention that faculty, staff, or students reduce to practice while employed by or enrolled in public high school in this state. Permits Department to assume, assign, partake in, or disclaim ownership of any patent that results from an invention under terms of contract or other agreement with faculty, staff, student, or legal guardian of student and in accordance with Department rules and applicable law.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Business Development Department, more commonly known as Business Oregon, is the state's economic development agency. Its mission is to invest in Oregon businesses, communities, and people to promote a globally competitive, diverse, and inclusive economy. Business Oregon supports the retention and expansion of existing Oregon businesses within traded sectors, carries out strategies to create a dynamic startup and entrepreneurial environment, and recruits companies from outside the state to fill supply chain gaps and grow existing industry clusters.

Federal statutes (Title 35 U.S.C. sect. 101) codify the patentability of inventions, stating "Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title." Reduce to practice is the process of demonstrating that an invention works correctly for its desired purpose and occurs when an inventor constructs the product or process within the scope of the patent claim and demonstrates its ability to achieve the intended purpose.

House Bill 2890 allows Business Oregon to hire an attorney with extensive experience in intellectual property law to write and file a patent application for any invention that faculty, staff, or students reduce to practice while employed by or enrolled in a public high school in Oregon. The bill permits the Department to assume, assign, partake in, or disclaim ownership of any patent that results from an invention under the terms of a contract or other agreement it enters with the faculty, staff, student, or legal guardian of a student, and in accordance with Department rules and applicable law.