

Requested by Representative SMITH DB

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
HOUSE BILL 2020**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “emissions” delete the rest of
2 the line and insert a period.

3 Delete lines 3 and 4 and insert:

4 “Whereas Oregon produces 0.14 percent of global greenhouse gas emis-
5 sions; and

6 “Whereas over 60 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions from Oregon
7 are sequestered in the form of carbon stored within our forests; and

8 “Whereas over 30 percent of the carbon stored within our forests is re-
9 leased in the form of greenhouse gas emissions from wildfire and decay; and

10 “Whereas industry is reducing greenhouse gas emissions through compli-
11 ance with Oregon’s renewable portfolio standards, through meeting the re-
12 quirement for electric companies to eliminate, by January 1, 2030, coal-fired
13 resources from their allocation of electricity and through improving carbon
14 capture and sequestration efforts in accordance with the state’s existing
15 greenhouse gas reduction goals; and

16 “Whereas wood from sustainably managed forests is renewable, recyclable
17 and the primary element in thousands of products that are used every day;
18 and

19 “Whereas protecting Oregon’s forests includes responsible forest manage-
20 ment that not only decreases fire risks and increases forest health but that
21 also provides a thriving forest sector economy, abundant recreational op-

1 opportunities and healthy forest ecosystems; and

2 “Whereas burning timber and brush from wildfires expel fine particles
3 into the air at a rate three times as high as levels cited in emissions inven-
4 tories by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; and

5 “Whereas emissions from Oregon forest fires in the year 2007 produced
6 enough greenhouse gases to equal to 11.1 million cars driven all year; and

7 “Whereas comprehensive forestry treatment prescriptions designed to re-
8 store sustainable ecological conditions, including but not limited to logging,
9 thinning and prescribed fire, can move 90 percent of treated acres into a
10 low-hazard condition; and

11 “Whereas the thinning of forests can reduce wildfire severity by up to 60
12 percent and remove up to 400 percent more carbon from the air than leaving
13 forests alone; and

14 “Whereas wood from Oregon forestland regulated by the state’s forest
15 protection laws can count toward the United States Green Building Council’s
16 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification for green
17 building projects; and

18 “Whereas one cubic meter of wood stores nearly a metric ton, about 2,200
19 pounds of carbon dioxide; and

20 “Whereas about half the dry weight of wood is carbon, which remains
21 stored in wood products used to construct houses, apartments and office
22 buildings, and helps offset carbon emissions that are contributing to chang-
23 ing climate conditions; and

24 “Whereas timber construction reduces the overall carbon footprint of a
25 building project, both through carbon storage and by substituting wood for
26 more energy-intensive materials; and

27 “Whereas each one million board feet of timber harvested in Oregon cre-
28 ates or retains about 11 jobs in the forest sector, which is the sector re-
29 sponsible for nearly one-third of the economic base in some rural counties;
30 now, therefore.”.

1 Delete lines 6 through 18.

2 Delete pages 2 through 55 and insert:

3 **“SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

4 **“(a) ‘Carbon sequestration’ means the long-term storage of carbon**
5 **dioxide or other forms of carbon.**

6 **“(b) ‘Greenhouse gas’ has the meaning given that term in ORS**
7 **468A.210.**

8 **“(c) ‘Greenhouse gas cap-and-trade system’ has the meaning given**
9 **that term in ORS 468A.210.**

10 **“(2) The Department of Environmental Quality and the State**
11 **Forestry Department shall coordinate to conduct a study on opportu-**
12 **nities for state actions to promote carbon sequestration. The study**
13 **must evaluate opportunities that include, but need not be limited to:**

14 **“(a) Opportunities for providing incentives to industries to engage**
15 **in carbon sequestration and other activities to store carbon, including**
16 **but not limited to opportunities for providing tax incentives or tax**
17 **credits to electric companies, natural gas utilities, transportation in-**
18 **dustry entities and other industries for reducing greenhouse gas**
19 **emissions and engaging in carbon capture and carbon sequestration**
20 **efforts, to be used for job creation or carbon capture and carbon**
21 **sequestration projects; and**

22 **“(b) Other opportunities for capitalizing on carbon sequestration**
23 **methods, such as natural ecosystems carbon sequestration and carbon**
24 **capture and storage technologies and other industrial carbon**
25 **sequestration methods, to store carbon while also promoting economic**
26 **development and long-term job creation in this state within the mar-**
27 **ket sectors engaged in carbon sequestration efforts.**

28 **“(3) The study required by this section shall include consideration**
29 **of regional approaches, other than adopting or participating in a**
30 **greenhouse gas cap-and-trade system, for reducing greenhouse gas**

1 **emissions through carbon sequestration.**

2 **“(4) The departments shall submit a report in the manner provided**
3 **by ORS 192.245, which may include recommendations for legislation,**
4 **to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to natural**
5 **resources no later than September 15, 2020.**

6 **“SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on January 2,**
7 **2021.”.**

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