

SB 1044 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 5/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes goals to promote zero-emission vehicle use. Directs the Department of Energy to report on comprehensive assessment regarding zero-emission vehicles and the state's progress on goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Allows the Public Utility Commission to approve public benefit proposals from public utilities if the proposal meets specified criteria. Authorizes state agencies to contract with a vendor, including a public utility, to install devices that delivers electricity to zero-emission vehicles. Sets requirements for state agencies to purchase or lease zero-emission vehicles for state agency fleet. Authorizes school districts receiving funding from an electric company or Oregon Community Power to use funds for energy or fleet audits, for purchasing or leasing zero-emission vehicles and for purchasing or installing electric vehicle charging stations.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces original measure. Modifies legislative findings. Revises Department of Energy's reporting requirement to Legislative Assembly. Clarifies definition of "light duty vehicle" and relocates reporting requirement for state agencies procuring vehicles that are not zero-emission vehicles. Deletes amendments to ORS 276.255 (state agency charging infrastructure) and ORS 757.355 (public utility rates).

BACKGROUND:

Executive Order 17-21 established Oregon's goal of reaching 50,000 registered electric vehicles in the state by 2020. Oregon is between two and four times the national average for electric vehicle ownership. As of 2018, Oregon had approximately 22,280 registered electric vehicles and 1,272 public chargers. In 2013, Oregon was one of eight states that established the Multi-State Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) task force to support state ZEV program implementation. House Bill 2017 (2017) directed the Department of Environmental Quality to create a rebate program for battery electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles starting in 2018. The Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program (OCVRP) is a cash rebate program for the purchase or lease of battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. Federal incentives are available for the purchase of eligible vehicles, and some utility companies offer local financial incentives. The state has encouraged the proliferation of electric vehicles by partnering with California, Washington, and British Columbia to create the West Coast Electric Highway, which is a connected network of electric vehicle charging stations on Interstate 5. The corridor currently has 44 charging stations in Oregon that have powered approximately three million all-electric miles. Oregon's electric vehicle strategy outlines implementation the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program, expanding charging infrastructure, and increasing resources and information for the public.

Senate Bill 1044 establishes goals to promote zero-emission vehicles, requires the biennial report assessing the progress of the state's zero-emission vehicle goals, and sets requirements for states agencies to purchase or lease zero-emission vehicles for fleets.