

SB 451 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Baertschiger Jr

Senate Committee On Rules

Action Date: 06/12/19

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

Vote: 4-1-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Baertschiger Jr, Burdick, Dembrow, Roblan

Nays: 1 - Boquist

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 5/13, 6/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Conditions eligibility for renewable energy certificates, for facilities that combust municipal solid waste, on registration with Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System, on or after January 1, 2011. Limits to electricity generated from combustion of biogenic material.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Biogenic material vs. Anthropogenic material
- Related legislation

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) directs Oregon utilities to source a specified percentage of their retail electricity sales with generation from qualified renewable resources by set dates. ORS 469A.130 requires the Oregon Department of Energy to establish a system of renewable energy certificates (RECs) that can be used by an electric utility or service supplier to establish compliance with the applicable RPS. The Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS) issues RECs for Oregon-certified energy facilities that generate qualifying renewable power. Facilities receive one REC for one megawatt-hour of qualifying renewable energy they deliver to the grid. Utilities and electricity service suppliers purchase and then retire these RECs to demonstrate compliance with the RPS. The legislature added facilities that generate electricity from direct combustion of municipal solid waste as an eligible generation source under the RPS in 2010; these facilities are eligible for RECs for electricity generated on or after January 1, 2011.