

**HB 4024 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**House Committee On Energy and Environment**

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**Action Date:** 02/13/20

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 9-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 9 - Bonham, Helm, Power, Reschke, Salinas, Schouten, Smith DB, Sollman, Wilde

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Beth Reiley, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/6, 2/13

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Prohibits certain products that use or contain hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) from commerce in Oregon if manufactured after a specified date. Authorizes the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) to adopt rules to modify deadlines, address substitutes, and designate acceptable HFCs for medical uses. Requires EQC to adopt rules requiring manufacturers of products or equipment containing substitutes restricted under measure to disclose specified information. Requires EQC to adopt rules conforming requirements with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approval of previously prohibited HFCs blend with global warming potential of 750 or less for specified purposes. Requires the Department of Consumer and Business Services to adopt rules amending the state building code as necessary to align the requirements for the use of certain equipment or products with prohibitions and requirements on the use of HFCs or other substitutes as adopted by rule by EQC under Act. Permits state contracting agencies to give preference to products that do not use or contain HFCs. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment *sine die*.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Consistency with California and Washington hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) restrictions
- Alternatives to using HFCs
- Specific uses of HFCs

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Revises direction to Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) to adopt rules requiring manufacturers of products or equipment containing substitutes restricted under measure to disclose specified information. In adopting rules, requires EQC consideration of and, to the extent possible, recognition of specified factors. Requires EQC to adopt rules conforming requirements with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approval of previously prohibited hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) blend with global warming potential of 750 or less for specified purposes. Requires the Department of Consumer and Business Services to adopt rules amending the state building code as necessary to align the requirements for the use of certain equipment or products with prohibitions and requirements on the use of HFCs or other substitutes as adopted by rule by EQC under Act.

**BACKGROUND:**

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are chemicals made up of hydrogen, fluorine, and carbon. HFCs are used as refrigerants, aerosol propellants, foam blowing agents, solvents, and fire retardants. The major emissions source of these compounds is their use as refrigerants—for example, in air conditioning systems in both vehicles and buildings. HFCs have high global warming potential. Overall, fluorinated gas emissions in the United States have increased by about 69.7 percent between 1990 and 2017. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the increase has been driven by a 239.9 percent increase in emissions of HFCs since 1990, as they have been

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widely used as a substitute for ozone-depleting substances.

House Bill 4024-A prohibits certain products that use or contain HFCs from entering into commerce in Oregon, if the product was manufactured by specified date. The Act would require the Department of Consumer and Business Services to adopt rules amending the state building code as necessary to align the requirements for the use of certain equipment or products with prohibitions and requirements on the use of HFCs or other substitutes. House Bill 4024-A would permit state contracting agencies to give a preference to products that do not use or contain HFCs.