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81st LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
State Capitol
900 Court St. NE, Rm. 347
Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1533
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Date: January 12, 2022

To: Members of the House Interim Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

From: Erin Pischke, LPRO Analyst

Re: Committee drafts for introduction on Wednesday, January 12, 2022

LC 222, dated 12/29/21, redefines “large-scale project” for purposes of contractor labor standards as a renewable energy generation, sequestration, or storage facility with a capacity rating of two megawatts or greater, except for a community solar facility with a capacity rating of three megawatts or greater. Clarifies good faith exception to required total work hours performed by apprentices. Makes technical changes to the large-scale project labor standards language in HB 2021 (2021). Exempts contracts and subcontracts with tribal government, agent, or instrumentality of Oregon Indian tribe for large-scale project on tribal lands from contractor labor standards. Requires request for proposals by electric company for resource procurement subject to competitive bidding requirements and contractor labor standards to include reference to and information regarding labor standards and to require successful bidder to verify provision of attestation, declaration, or project labor agreement. Requires the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to provide a copy of the attestation or declaration or project labor agreement to the Public Utility Commission (PUC). Authorizes ODOE to adopt rules to implement the competitive bidding requirements and report on attestation or declaration or project labor agreement to the PUC. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

LC 129, dated 12/28/21, establishes minimum energy efficiency standards for spray sprinkler bodies with integral pressure regulators and requires that they meet water efficiency and performance criteria of the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s “WaterSense Specification for Spray Sprinkler Bodies.” Stipulates energy efficiency standards do not apply to spray sprinklers sold outside the state, installed in a mobile or manufactured home, or installed in recreational vehicles. Authorizes the Oregon Department of Energy to implement the Act. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.

LC 144, dated 1/5/22 directs Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to create a program to acquire and distribute air conditioners and air purifiers on emergency basis to individuals eligible for medical assistance. Appropriates \$5 million OHA to implement air conditioner and air purifier acquisition and distribution program. Adds manufactured dwelling park nonprofit cooperative to list of entities eligible to participate in Healthy Homes Program. Clarifies electric utility as eligible entity. Adds improvements to reduce heat and electrical upgrades to types of repair and rehabilitation covered by program grants.

Establishes Heat Pump Deployment Program within Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to provide grants to entities to provide financial assistance to an eligible entity for each region and federally recognized Indian tribe in Oregon to cover purchase and installation of heat pumps and related upgrades. Requires eligible entities that received grant funds to report to the department by June 30 of each year concerning the status and use of grant funds received. Requires ODOE to adopt rules related to the Heat Pump Deployment Program in consultation with the Building Codes Division of the Department of Consumer and Business Services, the Housing and Community Services Department, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Oregon Health Authority, utilities and utility program administrators, and nonprofit organizations, housing providers, heat pump technicians and other stakeholders as appropriate.

Establishes Heat Pump Deployment Advisory Council consisting of representatives from eligible entities administering grant funds under the Heat Pump Deployment Program. Establishes Heat Pump Deployment Fund and appropriates \$10 million to the Fund. Directs ODOE Director to develop and submit report related to heat pump technician training programs no later than September 15, 2023. Sunsets reporting requirement January 2, 2024.

Directs Public Utility Commission to explore measures to address differentiated rates or energy assistance for ratepayers with higher utility bills during periods of extreme temperatures or poor air quality.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.