

HB 2398 -1, -4, -5 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 2/17, 3/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Director of Department of Consumer and Business Services (Director) to ensure that Reach Code energy efficiency standards mandate achievement of not more than 90 percent of site energy use that other statewide residential and commercial building codes require. Requires Director to update the Reach Code every three years. Requires Director to analyze how the amendments to the Reach Code will meet state statutory greenhouse gas reduction goals for buildings. Permits municipality to adopt Reach Code and require adherence to code as minimum construction standard and method within municipality's jurisdiction. Stipulates that adherence to the Reach Code as a minimum construction standard and method within a county's jurisdiction does not apply within the jurisdiction of a city within the county that has not adopted the Reach Code.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

- 1 Removes the requirement that adherence to the Reach Code as a minimum construction standard and method within a county's jurisdiction does not apply within the jurisdiction of a city within the county that has not adopted the Reach Code.
- 4 Requires municipalities that adopt the Reach Code and require adherence to the Reach Code as a minimum construction standard and method to subject measurement of energy efficiency savings and related incentives to the requirements of statewide residential and commercial codes.
- 5 Requires Director of Department of Consumer and Business Services (Director) to engage the University of Oregon (the university) to analyze and compare, using nationally accepted methods and practices, state building code standards for energy use and energy efficiency to similar building code standards in other states. Requires analysis to quantify building energy efficiency and compare results to other states. Requires the university to identify and list materials and construction methods that enable energy efficiency increases. Requires Director to engage a research institution to develop an energy efficiency cost-analysis tool. Repeals requirements for study and cost-analysis tool development on January 1, 2024.

BACKGROUND:

According to the US Department of Energy Oregon's first energy conservation requirements were developed in 1975 and were limited to residential buildings. This code was upgraded in 1978 and again in 1980 to reflect the new editions of the ASHRAE standards. Since 1980, the residential energy conservation requirements have been amended on a three-year cycle in sequence with the Oregon One- and Two- Family Dwelling Specialty Code. Previous energy conservation requirements became effective on April 1, 2003. New energy conservation requirements for residential buildings became effective April 1, 2005. The energy conservation requirements for commercial buildings were developed in 1978 and upgraded in 1980. Since 1980, the energy conservation requirements have been upgraded in sequence with the Oregon Structural Specialty Code. Previous energy conservation requirements became effective on October 1, 2003. New energy conservation requirements for commercial buildings were adopted and became effective on October 1, 2005. Effective April 1, 2007, non-residential buildings are subject to the 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC).

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House Bill 2398 would require the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services (Director) to ensure that standards for energy efficiency in the statewide Reach Code mandates achievement of not more than 90 percent of site energy use that other statewide residential and commercial building codes require. The bill would require the Director to update the Reach Code every three years and would also require the Director to analyze how the amendments to the Reach Code will meet state statutory greenhouse gas reduction goals for buildings.