

SCR 17 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 3/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes environmental justice framework of principles for State of Oregon

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2007 the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 420, which established the Environmental Justice Task Force. In addition, the 2007 Act established the following duties for natural resource agencies for the purpose of providing greater public participation and ensuring that people affected by natural resource agency decisions had a voice in those decisions. Natural resource agencies were required to: consider the effects of the action on environmental justice issues when making determination; hold hearings at time and place that would be convenient for affected people; engage in public outreach activities in the affected communities; and create a citizen advocate position.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 17 declares that it is the intent of the Legislative Assembly to apply those duties to all state agencies.