

**SB 392 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Energy and Environment**

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

**Meeting Dates:** 3/4, 3/18

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Department of Environmental Quality to study fugitive emissions from natural gas production and transportation and provide results of study and recommendations for legislation in report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2022. Sunsets January 2, 2023. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-1 Replaces measure. Requires Department of Environmental Quality, in consultation with the Public Utility Commission and Department of Energy, to study the fugitive emissions associated with production, storage, transportation and delivery of natural gas consumed in or transported through Oregon. Requires study to assess degree of fugitive emissions in Oregon’s natural gas delivery system; survey and describe production of natural gas consumed in Oregon and best practices to reduce fugitive emissions; describe characteristics and compare the regional supply and delivery systems with other states and regions; identify areas where there could be reductions of fugitive emissions; and develop certain definitions. Requires DEQ to consider certain information when conducting the study. Requires DEQ to report to Interim Legislative Committee related to the environment no later than November 15, 2022. Sunsets Act January 2, 2023. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**BACKGROUND:**

Some natural gas leaks into the atmosphere from oil and natural gas wells, storage tanks, pipelines, and processing plants. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that in 2018, methane emissions from natural gas and petroleum systems and from abandoned oil and natural gas wells were the source of about 29% of total U.S. methane emissions and about 3% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

Senate Bill 392 would direct the Department of Environmental Quality to study fugitive emissions from natural gas production and transportation and provide results of study and recommendations for legislation in report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2022.