

## **SB 1518 A -A5, -A6 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Joint Committee On Ways and Means**

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**Prepared By:** Michael Graham

**Meeting Dates:** 2/24

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Senate Bill 1518 establishes the Task Force on Resilient Efficient Buildings. The Task Force, which will be comprised of 27 members, must identify and evaluate policies related to building codes and building decarbonization for new and existing buildings that would enable the state of Oregon to meet its greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals; receive testimony, perform research, consult experts, review appropriate literature, and solicit feedback from disproportionately impacted communities around the state; make policy recommendations for legislation before the 2023 legislative session; and contract with a contractor to provide process facilitation, necessary data, and technical expertise or advice on best practices.

The Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO) will support the Task Force and may hire additional staff if needed, though the services of continuing LPRO staff are to be utilized to the greatest extent possible. All agencies of state government, including the Environmental Justice Task Force and the Environmental Equity Committee of the Racial Justice Council, are directed to assist the Task Force. The measure takes effect on passage, and the Task Force sunsets on December 31, 2023.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

##### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-A5 The -A5 amendment expands the scope of the Task Force's duties by directing the Task Force, in developing its recommendations, to consider the costs, savings, and benefits of policies that relate to residential, commercial, and industrial buildings.

-A6 The -A6 amendment appropriates \$279,359 General Fund to the Legislative Policy and Research Office in the 2021-23 biennium to provide support to the Task Force.

##### **BACKGROUND:**

According to the 2020 Oregon Global Warming Commission Biennial Report to the Legislative Assembly, greenhouse gas emissions for residential, commercial, and industrial buildings are generated primarily from energy use for heating and cooling systems, appliances, and lighting. Codes to increase efficiency of new buildings are adopted statewide in Oregon as part of the building code adoption process. Energy codes are a subset of building codes, which establish baseline requirements and govern building construction. Energy codes and standards set minimum efficiency requirements for new and renovated buildings, thus assuring reductions in energy use and greenhouse gas emissions over the life of the building. Furthermore, the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services, in consultation with appropriate advisory boards, is required to adopt, amend, and administer a Reach Code that is designed to increase energy efficiency in buildings that are newly constructed, reconstructed, altered, or repaired. The Reach Code is an aspirational efficiency code with which builders can choose to comply, and if so, local governments must accept projects built according to the Reach Code.

Senate Bill 1518 establishes the Task Force on Resilient Efficient Buildings for the purpose of identifying and evaluating policies related to building codes and building decarbonization for new and existing buildings to enable the state to meet its greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. The Task Force shall make policy recommendations

to interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the environment prior to the 2023 regular session.

PRELIMINARY