

SB 1518 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Action Date: 02/14/22

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Dembrow, Findley, Lawrence Spence, Lieber

Exc: 1 - Robinson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/7, 2/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes 27-member Task Force on Resilient Efficient Buildings (Task Force). Requires Task Force to: 1) identify and evaluate policies related to building codes and building decarbonization for new and existing buildings that would enable state to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals (ORS 468A.205), while maximizing certain additional benefits; 2) receive testimony, perform research, consult experts, review appropriate literature, solicit feedback from disproportionately impacted communities, and other activities to inform scope of Task Force's duties; 3) make policy recommendations for legislation to interim committees related to the environment prior to the 2023 regular session; 4) contract through the Legislative Policy and Research Office, in consultation with Task Force co-chairs, with contractor to provide certain services; and other relevant supplemental or related tasks. Requires the President of the Senate to appoint the chair of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee to serve as the co-chair and a republican senator to serve on the Task Force. Requires the Speaker the House of the Representative to appoint the chair of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee to serve as the co-chair and a republican representative to serve on the Task Force. Requires the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to jointly appoint 23 additional members with specific experience. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Operation of the current base code
- Professional education on code requirements
- Costs and benefits of energy efficiency
- Scope of Task Force on Resilient Efficient Buildings work

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

According to the 2020 Oregon Global Warming Commission Biennial Report to the Legislative Assembly, residential, commercial, and industrial buildings' greenhouse gas emissions primarily come 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, assuring reductions in energy use and emissions over the life of the building. Under existing statute, ORS 455.500, the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), in consultation with the appropriate advisory boards, is required to adopt, amend, and administer a Reach Code designed to increase energy efficiency in buildings that are newly

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

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constructed, reconstructed, altered, or repaired. The Reach Code is an aspirational efficiency code that builders can choose to use, and local governments are required to accept projects built to the Reach Code.

Senate Bill 1518 A would establish 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 that would enable the state to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and to make policy recommendations to the interim committees related to the environment prior to the 2023 regular session.