

SB 123 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 3/28, 3/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Department of Environmental Quality to study recyclability claims. Directs department to submit findings to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to environment not later than September 15, 2024.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces measure. Requires, no later than December 31, 2027, a producer responsibility organization to: consider and develop recommendations for the use of digital labeling by producers to convey information about recyclability claims when developing educational resources and promotional campaigns; and include digital labeling recommendation in producer responsibility program plan submitted to Department of Environmental Quality. Sunsets Act January 2, 2033.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon's Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act (SB 582, 2021) directed the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to establish a Truth in Labeling Task Force. According to the Task Force's final report "public confusion about what and how to recycle has been one of several root drivers of instability in Oregon's recycling system." In order to address this confusion the Task Force was directed to study smart labeling and make recommendations for legislation to the Legislature. The Task Force expressed that a diverse group of interested parties should identify best practices for how to integrate commonly used smart labeling technologies into labels to ensure accessibility and comprehension.

Senate Bill 123 would require DEQ to study recyclability claims.