HB 3317 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Action Date: 03/30/23

Action: Do pass. Refer to Ways and Means.

Vote: 10-0-1-0

Yeas: 10 - Bynum, Diehl, Elmer, Javadi, Lively, Morgan, Osborne, Pham H, Ruiz, Walters

Exc: 1 - Nguyen D
Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Andrew Hendrie, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/23, 3/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Wallowa Rural and Recreational Economic Development Board (Board) to focus on workforce development, workforce housing, and economic development. Directs Board to collaborate with Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) to formulate and implement strategies and practices for strategic investment in workforce housing, workforce development and economic development in Wallowa Rural and Recreational Economic Development Region. Board may award grants or loans to eligible entities for purpose of workforce development, workforce housing, and economic development. Establishes Wallowa Rural and Recreational Economic Development Board Fund (Fund). Appropriates \$5 million to Fund. Board is comprised of seven voting members and one nonvoting member. Permits county to rezone up to 50 acres of land from resource use to residential use. Board will report to appropriate interim committee of Legislative Assembly before September 15, 2026. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Land use in Wallowa area
- Workforce housing for health care professionals
- Rising costs of housing

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 3317 establishes the Wallowa Rural and Recreational Economic Development Board (Board) to focus on workforce development, workforce housing, and economic development and to make grants or loans related to workforce development, workforce housing, and economic development.

The Board will be comprised of eight members, the Governor will appoint seven members from a list provided by local governing bodies in the region and the Director of the Oregon Business Development Department or a designee, is a nonvoting member.

The Board will identify policy and strategies to promote workforce and economic growth; to facilitate, develop or prevent the decline of regionally significant industrial sites; promote viable workforce housing solutions; create or maintain jobs in the Wallowa Rural and Recreational Economic Development Region; and improve access to education and training. The Board may use funds from the Wallowa Rural and Recreational Economic Development Board Fund to make grants and loans to qualified applicants to facilitate collaboration among local governments and stakeholders and consult with affected school districts, community colleges, and universities.

HB 3317 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY HB 3317 creates a process to rezone and partition lands that are zoned for resource use, within the Wallowa Rural and Recreational Economic Development Region. The measure also allows Wallowa County to establish a review board appointed by the governing body of the county.