

HB 2530 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Carrier: Sen. Findley

Action Date: 04/27/23
Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.
Vote: 4-1-0-0
Yeas: 4 - Findley, Golden, Lieber, Sollman
Nays: 1 - Hayden
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Beth Reiley, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 4/20, 4/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines key terms. Requires Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to support the state’s transition to clean energy by accelerating the production, distribution, and end use of renewable hydrogen and green electrolytic hydrogen fuels by: 1) seeking and applying for federal funds for which the state is eligible, and supporting other applications for federal funds, that may be used to support the development and deployment of renewable hydrogen and green electrolytic hydrogen in this state; and 2) providing education and increasing awareness regarding renewable hydrogen and green electrolytic hydrogen for federally recognized Indian tribes, local governments, other state agencies, federal agencies, private entities, this state’s four-year public institutions of higher education, labor unions, environmental justice communities, and other relevant entities.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Opportunities for federal funding
- Stakeholder process to develop definitions
- Clarification of effect of Act on existing agency processes

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Hydrogen is the most abundant element in the universe, but on earth it rarely occurs naturally in its pure state. Instead, hydrogen is usually combined with other elements such as oxygen or carbon. When produced from wind or other renewable resources, hydrogen can store carbon-free energy that can later be used to generate electricity or power vehicles. Currently, most hydrogen is produced from fossil fuels, specifically natural gas. Electricity—from the grid or from renewable sources such as wind, solar, geothermal, or biomass—is also currently used to produce hydrogen. According to the United States Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, in the longer term, solar energy and biomass can be used more directly to generate hydrogen.

House Bill 2530 A requires the Oregon Department of Energy to undertake specified activities to support the state’s transition to clean energy by accelerating the production, distribution, and end use of renewable hydrogen and green electrolytic hydrogen fuels.