A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to offshore wind; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas it is the goal of the State of Oregon to plan for offshore wind energy in a manner that maximizes its benefits while minimizing and mitigating any adverse effects on this state’s fisheries, communities, economies, ecosystems and environments; and

Whereas it is in the interest of this state to identify, attract and leverage investments in this state's regional infrastructure, workforce and supply chain in order to support an affordable, reliable and resilient electric grid; and

Whereas Oregon’s southern coast is uniquely exposed to significant and extended disruptions to its electric system without investments to the region's infrastructure, workforce and supply chain; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. It is the policy of the State of Oregon:

(1) That the counties and tribal territories, off whose coasts offshore wind energy is developed, benefit from the offshore wind energy development and offshore wind lease payments.

(2) That a meaningful share of the benefits from offshore wind energy development go to local and regional communities, including coastal, fishing and tribal communities, ecosystems and environments and economies.

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.
(3) That, to the extent practicable, benefits from offshore wind energy development are reinvested into the local and regional economies to increase economic diversification and resilience through workforce training and development and local and regional supply chain investments.

(4) That the interconnection of offshore energy projects to the Oregon coast electric grid be carried out in a manner that promotes the reliability and resilience of this state's electric system and reduces dependency on importing out-of-state energy.

SECTION 2. (1) The Department of Land Conservation and Development, through the Oregon Coastal Management Program, shall conduct outreach and engage and coordinate with state agencies, local governments and affected communities to carry out the policies described in section 1 of this 2023 Act and subsection (2) of this section.

(2) It is the policy of the State of Oregon to:

(a) Support ongoing engagement between offshore wind energy developers and, at a minimum, the following:

(A) Affected communities, including coastal, fishing and tribal communities, including the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians and the Coquille Indian Tribe; and

(B) Community and regional organizations and agencies, including:

(i) Southern Oregon Ocean Resources Coalition;

(ii) Pacific Fishery Management Council;

(iii) Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board;

(iv) Oregon International Port of Coos Bay; and

(v) The Port of Brookings Harbor;

(b) Minimize and mitigate any adverse effects of survey activity related to offshore wind leasing while maximizing benefits from offshore wind energy development for local and regional:

(A) Communities, including coastal, fishing and tribal communities;

(B) Ecosystems and environments; and

(C) Economies, including Oregon’s fishing industry; and

(c) Promote economic diversification and resilience through, at a minimum:

(A) Apprenticeships, workforce training and development;

(B) Use of prevailing wages, apprenticeship utilization and project labor agreements;

(C) For work that is not construction, use of labor peace agreements;

(D) Use of community benefit agreements; and

(E) Local and regional supply chain investments.

(3) The department shall conduct, or support, federal consistency reviews of offshore wind leasing decisions and related actions related to offshore wind development off of the Oregon coast made by the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

(4) The department may engage a consultant to support the department in carrying out the provisions of this section.

SECTION 3. (1) The Department of Land Conservation and Development shall draft a report that summarizes the department’s activities in carrying out section 2 of this 2023 Act, reviews state policies related to offshore wind development and provides recommendations for improving state policies or further agency action.

(2) The department shall submit the report described in subsection (1) of this section in
the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to
the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to energy and development no
later than December 31, 2024.

SECTION 4. Section 3 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.

SECTION 5. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
ated to the Department of Land Conservation and Development, for the biennium beginning
July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of $250,000, for the purpose of carrying out
sections 2 and 3 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 6. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect
on its passage.