House Bill 4112

Sponsored by Representative BYNUM, Senator MEEK, Representatives LEVY E, ANDERSEN, SOSA, Senator SOLLMAN; Representatives HELM, NGUYEN D, PHAM H, RUIZ, SMITH G (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Tells one of the state's agencies to make rules that say how the agency will buy products and services from clean energy companies. Lets the agency work with other government bodies to help create and keep jobs in this state. Creates a fund for another state agency to make loans and grants to clean energy companies and projects that give certain benefits to people in this state. Sets up a group to give advice to the second agency. (Flesch Reading Score: 76.5).

Requires the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to adopt rules to govern procurements from clean energy technology companies. Directs the department to cooperate with state agencies that have expertise in energy production and conservation and in reducing or mitigating environmental impacts. Specifies the required contents of the department’s rules. Directs other state agencies to cooperate with the department in adopting and implementing rules.

Permits the department to enter into cooperative procurements and intergovernmental agreements in combination with other governmental bodies in this or other states to provide incentives for clean energy technology companies to create and retain high-skilled manufacturing jobs.

Establishes the Oregon Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing Opportunity Fund and appropriates moneys in the fund to the Oregon Business Development Department. Requires the department to establish a program to make loans, grants and other expenditures from the fund to foster, attract and sustain clean energy technology companies, and for other purposes. Requires the department to give priority in loans and grants to clean energy technology companies that include an employment plan with an application for the loan or grant.

Establishes the Clean Technology Leadership Advisory Council. Specifies the council’s membership and requires the council to advise the Oregon Business Development Department on decisions with respect to awarding loans and grants and to study and recommend methods of attracting, fostering and sustaining manufacturing firms and operations in this state, while maximizing additional benefits, including creating and sustaining living wage or union jobs, alleviating supply chain constraints and improving access to clean energy technologies, supporting technological innovation and diversifying the economy of this state.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to energy technology; and prescribing an effective date.

Whereas Oregon has an unprecedented opportunity to lead in producing and procuring innovative technologies that the entire world is seeking in the transition to a clean energy economy; and

Whereas recent federal investments in clean energy will have a profound impact on the American economy, and companies across the world are seeking to harness these incentives to establish or expand their clean technology businesses and manufacturing facilities; and

Whereas technologies such as heat pumps, solar panels, wind turbines and electric vehicles are in ever-increasing demand as the world transitions to a clean energy economy; and

Whereas supply-side incentives for clean energy technologies are critical for creating family wage jobs in this state that cannot be outsourced; and

Whereas the Legislative Assembly recognizes the need to drive as much as possible of this economic growth, job creation and prosperity to communities in this state; and

Whereas Oregon received two awards in clean technology categories from the United States Economic Development Administration’s Tech Hubs Program and is well-positioned to drive growth

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.

LC 239
in innovative, climate-smart manufacturing; and

Whereas aligning local industrial and technology strengths with clean energy innovation can help increase the competitiveness of businesses in this state relative to nationwide and global markets; and

Whereas ramping up the production of clean technologies can help reduce the price for these technologies at the point of sale and help ensure more equitable deployment of clean energy technologies to those who might be unable to afford the upfront cost; and

Whereas the Legislative Assembly has a role to play in increasing the competitiveness of this state and in leveraging federal incentives for research, development and domestic manufacturing of in-demand clean energy technologies; and

Whereas adopting complementary state programs and incentives is vital for attracting, expanding and sustaining clean energy technology companies in this state; and

Whereas doing so provides an opportunity to support sustained economic growth, create stable living wage or good union jobs, jump-start new local businesses, improve energy security, increase climate change preparedness, address supply chain constraints and ensure affordable access to clean energy technologies; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. As used in sections 1 to 3 of this 2024 Act:

(1) “Apprenticeship training program” means the total system of apprenticeship that a local joint committee, as defined in ORS 660.010, operates, including a local joint committee’s registered standards and all other terms or conditions for qualifying, recruiting, selecting, employing and training apprentices in apprenticeable occupations.

(2) “Clean energy technology company” means an industrial or manufacturing entity that develops or produces clean energy products or components that include:

(a) Equipment that produces or stores energy from the sun, water, wind, geothermal deposits or other renewable resources, including microturbines or energy storage systems and components, or that modernizes or updates the electrical grid in this state;

(b) Electric heat pump water heaters, electric heat pumps and associated heating, ventilation and air conditioning components for space heating or cooling, electric stoves, cooktops, ranges or ovens, or electric heat pump clothes dryers and associated components;

(c) Zero-emission vehicles, as defined in ORS 283.398, including medium-duty or heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles, or components, materials or infrastructure to support zero-emission vehicles; or

(d) Hydrogen produced through electrolysis using:

(A) A renewable energy source, as defined in ORS 469A.005;

(B) Nonemitting electricity that is not derived from a fossil fuel; or

(C) Electricity that has a carbon intensity that is equal to or less than the average carbon intensity of the electricity served in this state in the calendar year in which construction or expansion of the facility that produces the hydrogen began.

(3) “Community benefit agreement” means a project-specific agreement, such as a project labor agreement, as defined in 48 C.F.R. 52.222-34, for the purpose of creating meaningful employment opportunities for workers in, and maximizing positive benefits for, the community in which the bidder, proposer or applicant will undertake the project.

(4) “Disadvantaged business enterprise” has the meaning given that term in ORS 200.005.

(5) “Disadvantaged worker” means:

[2]
(a) A minority individual or woman, as those terms are defined in ORS 200.005;
(b) A veteran, as that term is defined in ORS 408.225;
(c) A person who was previously incarcerated; or
(d) A person with a disability.

(6) “Employment plan” means an offer from a bidder or proposer in a procurement, or
from an applicant for a grant, in which the bidder, proposer or applicant agrees to provide
some or all of the following benefits in return for a preference from a contracting agency in
evaluating a bid or proposal or a preference from a granting agency in evaluating a grant
application:
(a) To create jobs in areas in which the bidder, proposer or applicant operates;
(b) To pay living wages and provide family health and retirement benefits;
(c) To set hiring and training goals for disadvantaged workers;
(d) To contract with disadvantaged business enterprises;
(e) To invest in apprenticeship and preapprenticeship training programs;
(f) To enter into a high road training partnership; or
(g) To enter into a community benefit agreement.

(7) “High road training partnership” means a collaborative partnership, within a design-
nated geographical region of this state and for the purposes of improving business conditions
for employers within the region and providing quality job opportunities for workers within
the region, between an employer and a labor organization and any or all of these parties:
(a) An educational institution;
(b) A workforce training provider;
(c) A local workforce board;
(d) A community-based organization;
(e) A service provider;
(f) A labor market intermediary; and
(g) Individual workers.

(8) “Impact lending” means a loan or an investment made with the intent to generate
positive, measureable social and environmental benefits, in addition to a financial return.

(9) “Living wage” means a wage that is not less than or is equal to the greater of the
following applicable wage standards:
(a) The living wage standard in the locality or region where the job is performed;
(b) The prevailing rate of wage that the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and In-
dustries determines under ORS 279C.815 for a trade or occupation in a specified locality;
(c) The minimum wage specified under the federal Service Contract Act (41 U.S.C.
351-401) for the same or similar job duties in the same locality;
(d) A wage calculated according to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology living wage
calculator for the applicable region or county; or
(e) A collective bargaining agreement, if applicable, for the job being performed.

(10) “Preapprenticeship training program” means a program, the nature, goals, methods
and implementation of which the commissioner specifies by rule, for preparing underrepre-
sented, disadvantaged or low-skilled individuals to enter and complete a registered appren-
ticeship training program.

SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall adopt rules
under ORS 279A.070 to govern procurements from clean energy technology companies that
the department conducts on behalf of state agencies under ORS 279A.140.

(2) In adopting rules under subsection (1) of this section, the department shall solicit input from and cooperate with other state agencies with expertise in energy production and conservation and in reducing or mitigating environmental impacts.

(3) The department’s rules must permit a clean energy technology company to submit, as part of a bid or proposal for large or bulk procurements, a proposal or price agreement that includes an employment plan in which the clean energy technology company proposes to extend benefits to this state or, if federal moneys fund all or a portion of the procurement, to a state or region within the United States.

(4) Rules the department adopts under subsection (1) of this section must provide for giving a preference to a clean energy technology company that submits a credible employment plan under subsection (3) of this section.

(5) The department may enter into cooperative procurements and intergovernmental agreements under which the department conducts procurements in combination with other governmental bodies within this or another state as a market incentive for clean energy technology companies to create and retain high-skilled manufacturing jobs. The cooperative procurements and intergovernmental agreements may require clean energy technology companies to submit an employment plan as part of the clean energy technology company’s bid or proposal.

(6) All state agencies that are subject to ORS 279A.140 shall cooperate with the department in adopting and implementing the rules described in subsection (1) of this section.

SECTION 3.  
(1)(a) The Oregon Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing Opportunity Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by, and loan repayments made to, the Oregon Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing Opportunity Fund must be credited to the fund. Moneys in the Oregon Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing Opportunity Fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Business Development Department.

(b) The department may establish accounts within the Oregon Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing Opportunity Fund to pay administrative costs and operational expenses or otherwise to carry out the purposes of this section.

(2) Moneys in the Oregon Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing Opportunity Fund consist of:

(a) Moneys that the Legislative Assembly appropriates for or otherwise transfers to the fund;

(b) Moneys received from federal, state or local sources;

(c) Gifts, grants or other moneys contributed to the fund; and

(d) Other moneys deposited in the fund from any source.

(3)(a) The department shall develop a program to award grants, make low-interest loans and make other expenditures from moneys in the Oregon Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing Opportunity Fund to clean energy technology companies or an organization with demonstrated experience in impact lending for the purpose of:

(A) Attracting, expanding and sustaining within this state:

(i) Clean energy technology companies, including clean energy technology companies without a prominent existing domestic manufacturing base;

(ii) Early-stage clean energy technology companies that have a potential to grow into
manufacturing operations;
   (iii) Mid-stage clean energy technology companies that are seeking to establish manufac-
   turing facilities; and
   (iv) Late-stage clean energy technology companies that are seeking to expand or retool
   existing facilities or set up a new manufacturing base;
   (B) Fostering quality job creation in clean energy technology companies that manufac-
   ture products or support a supply chain; and
   (C) Supporting clean energy technology companies in this state by funding activities that
   include, but are not limited to:
   (i) Research for site location and project development;
   (ii) Retooling, expanding or building out manufacturing facilities;
   (iii) Technical assistance to support clean energy technology companies in applying for
   competitive federal grants for domestic manufacturing;
   (iv) Matching funds for clean energy technology companies that secured federal funding;
   (v) Research and development for innovations in clean energy technology manufacturing;
   and
   (vi) Employee retraining for living-wage jobs.
   (b) The department may, in consultation with the State Department of Energy, identify
   additional eligible clean energy technologies that produce or store energy from renewable
   sources or zero-emission sources.
   (4) In making grants or loans under this section, the department may disburse moneys
   as a single payment or in multiple payments and may place conditions for receiving the
   moneys in loan or grant agreements with recipients.
   (5) The department shall prioritize approval of grants or loans to clean energy technology
   companies and expenditures for projects that achieve the purposes described in subsection
   (3) of this section, with additional preferences for clean energy technology companies and
   projects that:
   (a) Have the best opportunities for growth within this state;
   (b) Provide local jobs and economic benefits for environmental justice communities, as
   defined in ORS 182.535, and communities that are economically distressed;
   (c) Promote the expansion and long-term economic vitality of clean energy technologies
   in this state, contribute to research and development, enable manufacturing and provide
   other critical links to the supply chain;
   (d) Promote and extend this state's leadership in the field of clean energy technology and
   manufacturing; and
   (e) Secure supplies for critical sectors of this state's clean energy technology economy.
   (6) In determining recipients for grants and loans and setting priorities under subsections
   (3) and (5) of this section, the department may consult and seek the advice of the Clean
   Technology Leadership Advisory Council established in section 4 of this 2024 Act, independent
   experts and stakeholders, and other jurisdictions that have established similar incentive
   programs, and shall solicit feedback from communities in this state that have suffered dis-
   proportionately from job losses and environmental or other impacts.
   (7) The department shall use as part of the department's evaluation criteria for loans and
   grants under this section whether a clean energy technology company included an employ-
   ment plan in the clean energy technology company's application for the loan or grant and
shall give priority to clean energy technology companies that do include a credible employment plan with the application.

(8) The department shall seek as contributions to the Oregon Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing Opportunity Fund federal and private investments including, but not limited to, moneys from United States Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Grants, the federal Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and other sources.

SECTION 4. (1) The Governor shall establish a Clean Technology Leadership Advisory Council within the office of the Governor. The council must consist of the Governor or the Governor's designee and 12 additional members that the Governor appoints with the aim of representing the geographic diversity of this state and providing the council with experience in areas of concern to the council. The members the Governor appoints must include:

(a) One member who represents the Oregon Business Development Department;
(b) One member who represents the Oregon Department of Administrative Services;
(c) One member who represents the State Department of Energy;
(d) One member with expertise in developing, securing or implementing clean energy technology or manufacturing incentives;
(e) Two members who are representatives of clean energy technology manufacturing firms with headquarters or operations in this state;
(f) One member with expertise in leveraging and managing public and private investments for clean energy technology;
(g) One member from a labor organization that represents regional manufacturing industry workers with expertise in labor requirements associated with federal funding;
(h) One member who represents a labor organization that represents workers in building trades or construction;
(i) One member who represents an organization with an interest in combating or reducing the effects of climate change; and
(j) Two members who represent an organization or local government with expertise in advancing local or regional economic growth and job creation, the first of which must reside in a rural region of this state and the second of which must reside in an urban area within this state.

(2) The council shall:

(a) Advise and consult with the Oregon Business Development Department as described in section 3 (6) of this 2024 Act;
(b) Provide a forum for members of the public and private sectors to discuss clean energy technology policy, funding needs and opportunities;
(c) Identify, evaluate and recommend policies or other methods of fostering, attracting and sustaining clean energy technology companies and manufacturing operations in this state, while maximizing additional benefits, including creating and sustaining living wage or union jobs, alleviating supply chain constraints and improving access to clean energy technologies, supporting technological innovation and clean energy leadership and diversifying the economy of this state;
(d) Consider, in developing the council's advice and recommendations:
   (A) Near-term opportunities for this state to leverage and maximize consumer-facing and business-facing incentives from the federal Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, P.L. 117-169, including, but not limited to:
(i) An extension of advanced energy project credit for clean technology manufacturing facilities under section 13501 of the Inflation Reduction Act;

(ii) An advanced manufacturing production tax credit for solar panels, wind turbines, inverters and batteries, under sections 13502 and 30001 of the Inflation Reduction Act, including investments under the federal Defense Production Act of 1950, 50 U.S.C. 4501 et seq., for domestic heat pump manufacturing;

(iii) Direct loans to retool or establish electric vehicle manufacturing facilities under section 50142 of the Inflation Reduction Act; and

(iv) Moneys from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund under section 60103 of the Inflation Reduction Act;

(B) Other methods, including, but not limited to, rebates, tax credits, loan guarantee programs and public procurement policies to promote clean technology manufacturing assembly and supply chains in this state;

(C) Opportunities to provide incentives and utilize procurement preferences to prospective contractors and suppliers to create and retain high-skill jobs by, at a minimum, recruiting disadvantaged workers, investing in preapprenticeship and apprenticeship training programs and high road training partnerships, providing family health and retirement benefits, paying living wages and entering into community benefit agreements; and

(D) Costs, savings and benefits of policies that attract and sustain clean technology manufacturing firms, including short-term and long-term economic, job creation, environmental, climate and health costs, savings and benefits; and

(e) Receive testimony, perform research, consult with experts, review appropriate literature, consult with representatives from other jurisdictions that have adopted or considered similar incentive programs, solicit feedback from disproportionately impacted communities around this state and otherwise undertake activities to inform council members related to the scope of the council's duties.

(3) The council may:

(a) Cooperate with or join together with other governmental bodies in the State of Washington with a similar mission to form a regional strategy for attracting and fostering clean energy manufacturing within the region; and

(b) Appoint other members to the council by majority vote.

(4) A majority of the members of the council constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

(5) Official action by the council requires the approval of a majority of the members of the council.

(6) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the Governor shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

(7) The council shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the cochairs or of a majority of the members of the council.

(8) The council may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the council.

(9) The council not later than May 31 of each year shall submit a report in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to energy technology, with copies to the Governor, to the Director of the Oregon Business Development Department, the Director of the Oregon Department of Administrative Services and to the Director of the State De-
department of Energy. The report must describe strategies to promote, attract and advance clean energy technology manufacturing in this state.

(10) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall provide staff support to the council.

(11) Members of the council are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the council.

(12) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the council in the performance of the duties of the council and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice that the members of the council consider necessary to perform their duties.

SECTION 5. Section 4 of this 2024 Act is repealed on December 31, 2033.

SECTION 6. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Business Development Department, for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of $20,000,000 for deposit into the Oregon Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing Opportunity Fund established under section 3 of this 2024 Act.

SECTION 7. This 2024 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2024 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.