

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2038

By COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT

April 14

1 Delete lines 4 through 18 of the printed bill and insert:

2 **“SECTION 1. (1) The State Department of Energy, in consultation with the Public Utility**
3 **Commission and the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council,**
4 **shall study the following subjects as related to nuclear energy, including legal pathways for**
5 **the disposal of nuclear waste produced from nuclear energy:**

6 **“(a) Potential advantages and disadvantages of nuclear energy;**

7 **“(b) Feasibility of constructing nuclear power plants, including small modular reactors,**
8 **in Oregon, including:**

9 **“(A) Timing for developing nuclear energy projects;**

10 **“(B) Life cycle costs of developing nuclear energy projects compared to other energy**
11 **sources;**

12 **“(C) Risks to health and the environment throughout the life cycle of a nuclear energy**
13 **project;**

14 **“(D) Measures for overcoming challenges to developing nuclear energy projects; and**

15 **“(E) Government and industry support necessary for developing nuclear energy projects;**

16 **“(c) How the use of nuclear energy may or may not support current energy systems,**
17 **including the ability of the electric grid to meet load requirements;**

18 **“(d) Economic growth and workforce development potential for Oregon communities;**

19 **“(e) Safety of nuclear energy;**

20 **“(f) Ability to safely and legally store and dispose of nuclear waste of the type produced**
21 **from nuclear energy, including:**

22 **“(A) Economic costs of disposing of the nuclear waste; and**

23 **“(B) Locations for interim storage of the nuclear waste;**

24 **“(g) Reliability of nuclear energy;**

25 **“(h) How the use of locally produced nuclear energy can eliminate dependence on**
26 **foreign-sourced energy;**

27 **“(i) Use of thorium as an option for producing nuclear energy;**

28 **“(j) Recommendations for making nuclear energy viable and cost-effective; and**

29 **“(k) Long-term outlook for nuclear energy, including small modular reactors, fusion and**
30 **advanced reactors.**

31 **“(2) In developing the study, the department shall engage with the federally recognized**
32 **Indian tribes located in this state, relevant state agencies and stakeholders. Engagement**
33 **with the Indian tribes must include direct written contact with the tribal government of each**
34 **Indian tribe. The department and each tribal government shall reach an agreement on a**
35 **reasonable amount of time for the tribal government to respond and provide input.**

1 “(3) The department shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
2 may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committee of the House of
3 Representatives on climate, energy and environment no later than January 31, 2027.

4 “SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2028.”.

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