



2022
Legislative
Session
Report



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ODOE LEGISLATIVE REPORT – 2022



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For questions about this report or if you see that there's a bill we ought to have included or something else of concern, please email christy.splitt@energy.oregon.gov

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INTRODUCTION

Oregon’s 2022 legislative session came to a close on March 4. There were 271 bills, memorials, and resolutions introduced during the session. Of those, the legislature passed 127 into law.

ODOE at the Capitol

The Oregon Department of Energy helps Oregonians make informed decisions and maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. We advance solutions to shape an equitable clean energy transition, protect the environment and public health, and responsibly balance energy needs and impacts for current and future generations.

On behalf of Oregonians across the state, the Oregon Department of Energy achieves its mission by providing:

- A Central Repository of Energy Data, Information, and Analysis
- A Venue for Problem-Solving Oregon's Energy Challenges
- Energy Education and Technical Assistance
- Regulation and Oversight
- Energy Programs and Activities

With all of these roles in mind, we track each legislative session carefully. This session, the Oregon Department of Energy shared energy data, information, and analysis and provided energy education about heat pumps, energy resilience, and energy efficiency standards. We also tracked bills that make changes to regulatory roles and add new programs and activities at the agency and provided technical advice to legislators and staff along the way.

As the legislative session closed on March 4, the legislature had passed several bills giving the Oregon Department of Energy new work to do toward achieving our mission. For example, SB 1536 will result in the agency designing and implementing two heat pump incentive programs supported by general fund dollars. Other legislation gives guidance on creating Oregon’s Energy Security Plan (SB 1567), adds landscape sprinklers to Oregon’s energy efficiency standards (HB 4057), makes minor changes to the Energy Project Responsible Labor Standards attestation housed on ODOE’s website (HB 4059), and adds the agency to the list of natural resources agencies that are part of the Environmental Justice Council (HB 4077).

About the 2022 Legislative Session Report

This document is designed with several purposes in mind:

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- For energy stakeholders to use as a quick reference of energy bills during the 2022 session
- For the general public to use as a place for quick, easy-to-read summaries of bills that relate to energy and other issues that relate to the mission or work of the Oregon Department of Energy
- To serve as a record of the bills ODOE tracked most closely during the Legislative session

Following this introduction, there are three sections:

- *Bills Passed* that relate to energy in Oregon
- *Budget Bills*
- *Bills Considered* that relate to energy in Oregon, but did not pass

For each bill listed, there is a summary, the effective date, and related Oregon Revised Statute chapter. For more information, click the hyperlinks on the right above each bill summary to go to the Oregon Legislative Information System overview page for each bill. From there, you can find the text of each measure, testimony, and votes on the bills as they moved (or did not move) through the process.

One of ODOE's roles is to provide analysis of energy issues to inform state energy planning, regulation, program administration, and policy development. In that vein, we have also provided a narrative summary of the energy landscape as the 2022 legislative came to a close.

This is designed to be an online-only report, which means that ODOE can update it – if you see that there's a bill we ought to have included or something else of concern, please email christy.splitt@energy.oregon.gov.

A Brief Overview of Energy Issues in the 2022 Legislative Session

The 2022 Legislative Session kicked off with a remarkable amount of change in the Capitol. There were 11 legislators experiencing their first annual session, reflecting an unusually high number of appointments between elections. There was also new leadership in the House – a new Speaker, new Minority and Majority Leaders, and a new Ways and Means Co-Chair. While the Capitol was open to the public after being closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, the omicron variant meant that committees were still virtual and the crowded halls and lobbies of a normal session would have to wait. And for the first time, walking into Oregon's Capitol now included a metal detector.

The 2022 session followed an energy-packed 2021 session. Agencies, industry, and advocates were busy implementing landmark clean energy and energy justice legislation. You can read more about those recently-passed bills in the [2021 Legislative Report](#). In addition, several state

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agencies, including ODOE, have continued to implement [Governor Kate Brown’s Executive Order 20-04](#), directing state agencies to reduce and regulate greenhouse gas emissions. Most legislative onlookers expected a quiet session on climate change and energy policy. Yet, it turned out there was plenty of action.

In response to the heat dome event of 2021, in which at least 100 Oregonians died of heat-related illness often in their own homes, a pair of bills, HB 4058 and SB 1536, were introduced to address heat relief. Oregon is experiencing more frequent extreme weather events, and lack of access to air conditioning had become a public health emergency. Because cooling devices can create additional energy burden, both bills included heat pumps as an alternative that can provide energy-efficient cooling and replace or supplement inefficient or more greenhouse gas-intensive heat sources like heating oil or wood. In the end, the two bills were combined into SB 1536, which you can read more about on p. 9.

In 2021, local governments and climate change advocates introduced [HB 2398](#) as part of a continued effort to allow local jurisdictions to adopt Oregon’s reach code as their local building code. That bill did not pass. In 2022, they brought forward the same concept as SB 1518 (p. 8). Several advocates in the building industry raised concerns about such an approach replacing a single statewide code, and so SB 1518 was amended to create the Resilient and Efficient Building Task Force. This task force will look at ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the building sector this year, with recommendations intended to inform potential 2023 legislation.

Over 90 percent of all liquid fuel storage in Oregon can be found at the Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub in industrial NW Portland. As the state has considered readiness and resilience in the event of a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake, the CEI Hub’s location on infill along the Willamette River has raised significant concerns. SB 1567 builds on years of study and discussion (as well as [SB 95](#), which did not pass into law in 2019). SB 1567 requires the largest bulk fuel terminals in the state to conduct seismic vulnerability studies and develop seismic risk mitigation plans. It also calls for Oregon to build an energy security plan to increase energy resilience in times of disaster, work that will be led by the Oregon Department of Energy. You can learn more about SB 1567 on p. 10.

Energy justice continued to be a topic of interest to legislators and to the Governor. One of the Governor’s priorities for the legislative session was to pass HB 4077 (p. 7), which reforms the Environmental Justice Task Force, renames it the Environmental Justice Council, and requires additional agencies to work with the new Council – including the Oregon Department of Energy. It also calls for the creation of an equity mapping tool that can be used by state agencies in their work. This mapping tool, as well as the work of the Environmental Justice Council, will influence the implementation of the 2021 suite of landmark energy legislation.

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Finally, the 2022 Legislative Session was marked by a unique budget dynamic. State coffers reflected an influx of federal funding and unexpectedly high state revenue, and the legislature directed money toward some climate change and energy programs and projects. HB 4139 (p. 8) included \$15 million for vehicle charging infrastructure for medium- and heavy-duty trucks. The legislature added \$15 million to the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program, \$5 million to the Oregon Solar + Storage Rebate Program, and \$5 million to the Healthy Homes Program in SB 5202 (p. 11). SB 5202 also included \$25 million in drought relief investments.

What's Next?

With the long session approaching, eyes in the energy sector are focused on myriad task forces and studies expected to inform the 2023 Legislative Session. The work of the Resilient and Efficient Building Task Force, established in SB 1518, will likely result in policy and budget recommendations. The Oregon Department of Energy will release reports this fall on [small-scale and community-based renewable energy projects](#), [floating offshore wind](#), and [renewable hydrogen](#). And the Oregon Global Warming Commission continues to work toward goals articulated in their recent [Natural & Working Lands Proposal](#), as well as a to-be-released [Roadmap to 2035](#).

We have included a section on bills that didn't pass starting on p. 12 to provide a sense of what policy issues or concepts may be considered in the future.

Bill Information: Effective Dates, Operational Dates, Publication

Normal Effective Dates

ORS 171.022 provides that unless otherwise stated, all bills take effect on January 1 of the year after the bill is signed into law. This means that unless a bill specifically names a different effective date or has an emergency clause, the bill will take effect on January 1 of the next year.

Emergency Clause

The Oregon Constitution prohibits a bill from taking effect “until ninety days from the end of the session” unless an emergency is declared. An emergency clause will appear in the bill if it is to take effect before the 91st day after adjournment sine die. Bills with emergency clauses are not subject to a referendum of the voters; all other bills are subject to possible referral under the Oregon Constitution. Because of this provision, the Constitution gives the Governor the power to veto an emergency clause without affecting the rest of the bill. The Constitution also prohibits the use of an emergency clause in bills that regulate taxation or exemption. An emergency clause must apply to an entire bill.

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Operative Date

If a bill requires administrative preparation before the bill is fully operative, an operative date is used to delay operation of all or part of the bill. If an operative date is used, the entire bill takes effect on its effective date. However, a specified part of an Act does not become operational until a later specified date. It is important to distinguish between items that are authorized on and after the effective date, and items that are not authorized until the operative date.

Example of an emergency clause for a bill that will take effect on its passage:

SECTION 30. This 2009 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2009 Act takes effect on its passage.

Note: A bill with an emergency clause takes effect when the Governor signs it, not when passed by both houses of the Legislative Assembly.

Example of an emergency clause for a bill that takes effect on a specific date after passage but before the 91st day after the end of session:

SECTION 30. This 2009 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2009 Act takes effect July 1, 2009.

Note: If the July 1 date is used and the Governor signs the bill before July 1, the bill takes effect on July 1. If the Governor signs the bill after July 1, the bill takes effect on the date the Governor signs it.

Bill Publication

Copies of the 2022 enrolled bills (the copy the Governor signs) may be found on the legislative website: <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2022R1/Measures/list/>. Measures signed into law are known as “session laws” and are available on the legislative website under Oregon Laws. Permanent Laws passed during the 2022 Legislative Session will not be codified until the 2023 edition of Oregon Revised Statutes is released.

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LEGISLATION PASSED

HB 4057: Landscape Sprinkler Efficiency Standards

[HB 4057](#)

Chapter: 4

Effective Date: June 3, 2022

This bill establishes an efficiency standard for spray sprinkler bodies (landscape sprinklers) that is based on the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s WaterSense standard and requires internal pressure regulation capabilities to improve performance and reduce water consumption. The standard will become effective for equipment manufactured after January 1, 2023, and any covered equipment not meeting the standard will not be allowed for sale or installation in Oregon. ODOE is given authority to administer this standard, and the language is added to ORS 469.229-261 that covers other product efficiency standards administered by the Oregon Department of Energy.

To learn more about energy efficiency standards and codes, see the 2020 Biennial Energy Report’s [Energy 101: Codes and Standards](#).

HB 4059: Responsible Labor Standards for Energy Facilities

[HB 4059](#)

Chapter: Not Yet Assigned

Effective Date: when bill is signed by Governor

HB 4059 makes changes to the [HB 2021](#) (2021) responsible contractor labor standards, for which ODOE has a [website](#) and [online form](#). Specifically, HB 4059:

- Provides “good faith exemption” to apprenticeship requirement. Developers can attest apprentices perform 15 percent of project work hours or document good faith effort to meet requirement.
- Requires project developers to attest to compliance with prevailing wage rates and health and retirement benefit provisions in addition to apprenticeship and hiring practice provisions.
- Allows developers to submit a project labor agreement in lieu of attesting to all project labor standard requirements.

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- Exempts contracts and subcontracts with tribal governments, agents, or instrumentalities of Oregon Indian Tribes for large-scale project on tribal lands from contractor labor standards.
- Requires that utility competitive resource procurement requests for proposals (RFPs) reference labor standards and require successful bidders to provide labor standards attestations.

HB 4064: Manufactured Housing

[HB 4064](#)

Chapter: Not Yet Assigned

Effective Date: when bill is signed by Governor

Allows manufactured homes and prefabricated structures to be sited in any area zoned to allow the development of single-family dwellings. Local governments can't block or subject these homes to standards that don't apply to single-family dwellings constructed under Oregon's Low-Rise Residential Dwelling Code. Expands definitions of manufactured dwellings and manufactured dwelling parks to include prefabricated structures. Prefabricated structures can be located in mobile home or manufactured home parks but are still subject to the Oregon Residential Specialty Code, just as site-built homes are subject to that code. Expands OHCS's Manufactured Dwelling Replacement Forgivable Loan Program to allow survivors of natural disasters who lost their homes to relocate to somewhere else in Oregon and still receive support.

HB 4077: Environmental Justice Council and Equity Mapping

[HB 4077](#)

Chapter: Not Yet Assigned

Effective Date: June 3, 2022

HB 4077 renames the "Environmental Justice Task Force" to the "Environmental Justice Council" (Council) and establishes the Council within the Office of the Governor. The bill includes direction to the Governor regarding appointment of Council members, responsibilities of the Council and financial and legal guidance for the council. The bill adds a representative with expertise in energy to the 13-member Environmental Justice Council.

The bill also allows the governor's office to enter into an agreement with DEQ to provide clerical, administrative and financial support to the Council. Specific provisions in the bill include:

- New and updated definitions related to environmental justice and EJ communities
- Development of an environmental justice mapping tool.

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- Development of a report including guidance and best practices for state agencies.
- General Fund appropriations to Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Health Authority, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the office of Enterprise Information Services.

The bill includes a definition for “community supported natural resource collaborative” to coordinate with state agencies on natural resource issues. In addition, natural resource agencies, now including ODOE with the passage of HB 4077, are directed to assist the Environmental Justice Council in the performance of its duties and to furnish information necessary for the Council.

ODOE staff will support development of the environmental justice mapping tool and support an annual report to the Governor’s office and the Legislative Assembly detailing progress of natural resource agencies toward achieving goals. This bill impacts the environmental justice task force and environmental justice communities which are integral to current ODOE activities.

HB 4139: Reducing Emissions from ODOT Construction

[HB 4139](#)

Chapter: Not Yet Assigned
Effective Date: June 3, 2022

This bill directs the Oregon Department of Transportation to establish a pilot program for greenhouse gas reduction in construction and maintenance of the transportation system no later than December 2025. The pilot will establish a baseline of greenhouse gas emissions attributable to covered materials the Department of Transportation currently uses in construction and maintenance projects, and will produce life cycle assessments of potential replacements or substitutes. It will also develop measures for reducing GHG emissions by using replacement or substitute materials and incorporating alternative construction techniques. There is a provision for grants to help certain disadvantaged businesses comply. The bill also directs ODOT to establish a technical advisory committee to assist the department with issues related to implementing the pilot program and to issue an annual report.

The bill also directs the Department of Environmental Quality to establish a \$15 million program for medium- and heavy-duty zero emission vehicle charging and fueling. Specifically, the grant program is to support infrastructure projects authorized under ORS 468.035. Costs to administer this program (expenses by the department or contractors) are limited to 10 percent (per biennium).

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SB 1518: Resilient and Efficient Building

[SB 1518](#)

Chapter: Not Yet Assigned

Effective Date: when bill is signed by Governor

This bill establishes a Task Force on Resilient Efficient Buildings and specifies task force membership, appointed by the Senate President and House Speaker. The task force will be chaired by members of the Oregon House and Senate, with staff support from the Legislative Policy and Research Office. It is expected that ODOE will also aid the Task Force. The bill requires the task force to identify and evaluate policies related to building codes and building decarbonization for new and existing buildings that would enable the state to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals while maximizing other benefits. Requires the task force to make policy recommendations for legislation to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to environment before 2023 regular session of Legislative Assembly.

To learn more about energy efficiency standards and codes, see the 2020 Biennial Energy Report's [Energy 101: Codes and Standards](#).

SB 1519: Property Tax Exemption for Community Solar Projects

[SB 1519](#)

Chapter: Not Yet Assigned

Effective Date: June 3, 2022

SB 1519 enables the portions of community solar projects associated with residential subscribers to be exempt from property taxes. The measure amends ORS 307.175 with new definitions to describe residential subscriptions to community solar projects. The tax exemption applies only to the portions of community solar projects associated with residential subscribers. The project manager of the community solar facility must file the property tax exemption with the Department of Revenue. The measure applies to property tax years beginning on or after July 1, 2022.

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SB 1536: Emergency Heat Relief Package

[SB 1536](#)

Chapter: Not Yet Assigned

Effective Date: January 1, 2022

After the extreme heat wave in the summer of 2020 led to the death of many Oregonians, legislators and advocates worked to create options to add cooling to residences of at-risk Oregonians including those on upper levels in multi-story housing complexes, those in residential care facilities, and those with no access to cooling. Adding cooling can create additional energy burden; however, if cooling is added via heat pumps, residents get the benefits of added cooling and energy savings from more efficient heating – which can help minimize the monthly utility bill cost impact of adding cooling.

This bill directs ODOE to initiate a \$10 million heat pump deployment program, a \$15 million grant/rebate program for installation of heat pumps by landlords, fund a \$2 million grant for a Community Cooling Center program for extreme heat events, and to conduct a Cooling Needs Study to identify the existing cooling as well as barriers to cooling access in government supported housing.

This bill makes changes to the obligations of landlords to provide safe housing for tenants and updates those laws to reflect the increasing chance of extreme heat events in Oregon that put Oregonians’ lives at risk. In addition, this bill directs the Oregon Health Authority to implement an emergency air conditioner and air filter program to distribute life-saving equipment during heat and air quality emergencies and amends the OHA Healthy Homes program to expand the list of eligible implementers and allows for inclusion of improvements that would reduce the impact of heat events on residents.

SB 1558: Removes Cap on Electric Vehicle Rebate Programs

[SB 1558](#)

Chapter: 25, 2022 Laws

Effective Date: June 3, 2022

SB 1558 would remove the 12-million-dollar annual cap on privilege tax funds transferred to the Zero-Emission Incentive Fund, which is used for Department of Environmental Quality’s electric vehicle rebate programs. Language will change from “\$12-million” to “the greater of \$12 million or 45 percent of the gross amount of the moneys received.” The bill also includes provisions around traction tire citations and repeals a COVID 19-related citation for traffic offenses related

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to documents and credentials that expired during period beginning on March 1, 2020 and ending on December 31, 2020.

SB 1567: Fuel Storage Tank Safety and Energy Security Planning

[SB 1567](#)

Chapter: Not Yet Assigned

Effective Date: June 3, 2022

SB 1567 is a response to years-long conversations and work around Portland’s Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub, which sits on unstable ground along the Willamette River, as well as similar conversations around the lack of liquid fuel storage in other parts of the state. The bill gives regulatory authority to Department of Environmental Quality to require bulk fuel terminals in the state to conduct seismic vulnerability studies and develop seismic risk mitigation plans for facilities that meet or exceed 2 million gallons of storage capacity onsite.

SB 1567 directs ODOE to develop an energy security plan to assess the state’s ability to recover quickly from natural disasters and manmade threats, including cyber risks, to Oregon’s energy systems overall. The energy security plan would include assessments to Oregon’s electricity network, natural gas system, and liquid fuels. Direction and funding to develop the energy security plan comes from the recently passed Federal Infrastructure Bill, which provides money and technical support to state energy offices across the nation to develop energy security plans. Developing the plan will require close coordination with multiple state agencies, including the Oregon Public Utility Commission. ODOE will consult with local governments, tribal governments, and the Environmental Justice Council to develop the energy security plan. ODOE is also required to coordinate with private-sector partners in the petroleum industry, electric and natural gas utilities, and other qualified technical experts in disaster resilience. As part of the energy security plan, as directed in SB 1567, ODOE will evaluate strategies to increase fuel storage capacity throughout the state to provide a safety net for local communities. Developing the energy security plan will be a major effort for ODOE and our stakeholders, and we are fortunate to expect receipt of federal funds for the project.

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SCR 204: 2022 Legislative Assembly Rules

[SCR 204](#)

Filed with Secretary of State

Every legislative session, energy policy is discussed and addressed, and the Oregon Department of Energy expects that there will be energy policy-related measures in the 2023 session as well. SCR 204 lays out deadlines for the pre-session filing of bills for that session.

- Legislators and committees have until September 23, 2022 to submit requests for legislative concepts that they intend to file prior to the 2023 session.
- The Office of Legislative Counsel has until December 5, 2022 to deliver draft legislative concepts.
- Legislators and committees must file pre-session bills by December 21, 2022.

BUDGET BILLS

SB 5202 : Budget Reconciliation Bill

[SB 5202](#)

Chapter: Not Yet Assigned

Effective Date: When the Governor Signs

SB 5202, the budget reconciliation bill, makes many changes to the state budget for the 2021-2023 biennium. It includes several components relevant to energy and climate change:

- \$5 million general fund for the Oregon Solar + Storage Rebate Program at the Oregon Department of Energy
- \$15 million general fund added to the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- \$5 million added to the Healthy Homes Program at the Oregon Health Authority
- \$25 million in drought relief funds, which was distributed to several different agencies

LEGISLATION CONSIDERED (not passed)

HB 4048: Statewide Market Analyses

[HB 4048](#)

Did Not Pass

HB 4048 would have directed the Oregon Business Development Department to conduct separate comprehensive statewide market analyses for six emerging sectors. Of these six emerging sectors, one relates to energy and climate change: ocean resources and the blue economy.

These market analyses would have included, at minimum:

- Employment and wage data related to production, distribution, and sales in the sector;
- Assessment of direct and indirect economic impacts of the sector;
- Analysis of competitive economic strengths and weaknesses of the sector in Oregon;
- Identification and discussion of policies and actions that could increase competitiveness and support growth of the sector in Oregon; and
- Any other information, data, or analysis the Department considers necessary.

HB 4058: Emergency Heat Relief

[HB 4058](#)

Passed as SB 1536 – see above

HB 4058 contained an emergency air conditioning deployment program, changes to the Healthy Homes Program, and a heat pump deployment program. The contents of HB 4058 were added by amendment to SB 1536, another bill that provided heat relief measures. Please see the summary above for SB 1536, which passed into law, for more information.

HB 4090: Renewable Diesel Requirements for State Agency Fleet

[HB 4090](#)

Did Not Pass

Oregon has a Renewable Fuel Standard ([HB 2210](#) from 2007, ORS 646.922) that since August 2010 requires a retail dealer, nonretail dealer, or wholesale dealer to not sell or offer for sale diesel fuel unless the diesel fuel contains at least 5 percent biodiesel by volume or other

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renewable diesel with at least 5 percent renewable component by volume. This bill follows [HB 3305](#) in 2021, which would have banned the sale of petroleum diesel statewide by 2028. HB 4090 would have directed a state contracting agency that procures or intends to procure a vehicle with a diesel motor or engine to qualify the vehicle for procurement by obtaining a certification in writing from the manufacturer or vendor of the vehicle that the diesel motor or engine is capable of operating with a blended fuel that consists of not less than 20 percent biodiesel.

HB 4141: Renewable Diesel Requirements

[HB 4141](#)
Did Not Pass

Like HB 4090 above, this concept also builds off of HB 3305 from 2021. As drafted, the bill laid out a gradual transition from 95 percent petroleum diesel to 100 percent renewable diesel. During the session, the bill was amended into a task force to discuss a transition to an increased renewable diesel standard over time. That task force would have been staffed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Department of Energy.

HCR 203: Protecting Workers from Climate Change Impacts

[HCR 203](#)
Did Not Pass

Oregon workers are increasingly at risk to on-the-job injury, illness, and death due to a changing climate and increased exposure to climate hazards, such as extreme cold and heat and wildfire smoke. For example, the region's extreme heat wave in June 2021 resulted in at least three work-related deaths to excessive heat exposure. Climate hazards disproportionately affect outdoor frontline workers who are required to work in non-climate-controlled environments. Such workers are overwhelmingly from immigrant communities, low-income communities, and communities of color, who are disproportionately susceptible to underlying health conditions. Requirements that outdoor and frontline workers perform work duties in dangerous conditions contributes to health and financial inequities, resulting in increased injury, illness, mortality, increased mental health stress, decreased economic security, and lost wages.

House Concurrent Resolution 203 would have declared legislative intent to protect Oregonians against work-related risks aggravated by climate change. Under this resolution, the State would have recognized the rights of outdoor workers (those who spend more than 50 percent of their labor outdoors) to receive pay protections during potentially harmful climatic conditions.

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Specifically, the resolution called for employers to provide safe and healthy work environments by stopping work when the work site is located in an area subject to:

- A level 3 evacuation warning;
- A level 2 evacuation warning (and within a 2-mile radius of an area subject to a level 3 evacuation warning);
- Outdoor air temperatures exceeding 100°F;
- Outdoor air temperatures of 15°F or lower; or
- An air quality index value of 350 or higher.

SB 1534: Climate Change and Natural & Working Lands

SB 1534

Did Not Pass

Carbon sequestration is a critical component of mitigating climate change. Practices to increase the amount of carbon stored on lands and waters can also provide a series of co-benefits, such as improving soil productivity and fish and wildlife habitats, protecting communities from coastal flooding, improving water and air quality, creating natural resource jobs, and generating increased revenue for private land managers.

SB 1534 would have established state policy to increase carbon sequestration in natural and working lands and waters and directed the Oregon Global Warming Commission to appoint a natural and working lands and waters advisory committee. The bill would have required certain agencies (including Oregon Department of Energy, Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Department of Land Conservation and Development) and the Institute for Natural Resources to contribute information to establish and maintain a carbon sequestration inventory and allow for the tracking of progress towards activity- and community-based goals and targets. Said agencies would also be required to provide progress updates for use in the OGWC's biennial report to the Legislature. Finally, the bill would have directed the Institute for Natural Resources to study workforce and economic development potential of strategies to increase carbon sequestration for the Legislature.

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SB 1537A: Housing Impact Statements in Rulemaking Process

[SB 1537A](#)
Did Not Pass

This bill would have changed the Housing Cost Impact Statement (HCIS) requirements for ODOE and other state agencies, requiring certain findings to accompany agency rulemaking. For example, the HCIS would have had to include an estimate of the effect of the proposed rule on certain housing types, whether the proposed rule may result in the displacement of members of historically disadvantaged communities or low-income families, whether the rule would require residential developers to adopt additional training, record keeping, inspections, or verification under the rule, and an estimate of the effect these administrative requirements will have on dwellings, and much more. There was also a post-rulemaking requirement to continually monitor and maintain records of the costs identified in a HCIS, along with a Legislative report at least every two years on whether the estimated costs of the rules have substantially changed since adoption. The bill was amended to create a “Task Force on Housing Impact Statements” to review and make recommendations on how to modernize agency housing cost impact statements, but the amended bill did not pass

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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