74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session   **MEASURE:**   **SB 375**
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY   **CARRIER:**   **Sen. Walker**
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	4 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Atkinson, Bates, Prozanski, Avakian
Nays:	Beyer
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sue Marshall, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes minimum energy efficiency standards for certain products. Prohibits the sale or installation of products that do not meet standards. Allows the Department of Energy to adopt rules in certain cases to update minimum efficiency standards. Requires the Director of the Department of Energy to introduce legislation to conform to statutory minimum efficiency standards with rules. Requires the director to apply for a waiver of federal preemption in certain cases.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:
- Aligning Oregon efficiency standard to the California standard
- Whether to remove certain products from the standard
- Ability of the Department of Energy to revise furnace code through rule rather than federal waiver

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Authority to adopt efficiency standards for appliances and electrical equipment resides with the state in cases where there are no federal standards. In order to have a uniform approach, Oregon and other states have adopted standards developed by the state of California, acknowledged to be the market leader. Where the federal government has adopted standards, states are preempted from establishing more stringent standards unless they receive a waiver from the U.S. Department of Energy. The 2005 Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 3363 to require efficiency standards on eleven appliances following California's lead. Senate Bill 375 establishes efficiency standards for appliances and electrical equipment that are identical to standards recently adopted by the state of California. A federal waiver would be required for the proposed residential furnace standard.

4/26/2007 10:06:00 AM
This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.