## 76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2012 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY House Committee on Energy, Environment and Water

MEASURE: HB 4079A CARRIER:

| FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Action:                         | Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Revenue |
|                                 | by prior reference  |
| Vote:                           | 8 - 0 - 0   |
| Yeas:                           | Bentz, Boone, Keny-Guyer, Krieger, Thompson, Witt, Bailey, Gilliam                      |
| Nays:                           | 0   |
| Exc.:                           | 0   |
| Prepared By:                    | Beth Patrino, Administrator   |
| Meeting Dates:                  | 2/2, 2/7  |

## **REVENUE:** Revenue statement issued

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies provisions governing renewable energy tax credits, including: use of term "award," confirmation that partial credit and partial appropriation are allowed, required information on number and type of jobs directly connected to grant award, credit auctions, definition of "transportation project," authorization for Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to adjust credit amount to manage cap, application by third party installers to reserve credits on behalf of owners, and modification of transferee language for consistency with other statutes. Authorizes ODOE director (Director) to reduce amount of allowable credit for subsequent processings of oilseeds. Limits total amount of biomass tax credits allowed to \$20 million per biennium. Authorizes Director to allocate issuance of certificates among applicants and proportionally reduce amount of allowed credit if applications exceed cap. Adds biomass and energy tax credits to law requiring state agency administering tax credit to submit a report to Oregon Department of Administrative Services. Takes effect on 91<sup>st</sup> day following date on which 2012 regular session of 67<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Need for technical changes to some tax credit statutes following adoption of House Bill 3672 (2011)
- Addition of energy tax credits to transparency law adopted in 2011
- Importance of continuing to receive jobs data

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Deletes requirement for ODOE to submit report to legislative committees on implementation of legislative changes to energy tax credit programs under chapter 730, Oregon Law 2011.

**BACKGROUND:** House Bill 3672A (2011) replaced the pre-existing business energy tax credit (commonly known as the "BETC") with three separate credits: a conservation credit, a renewables energy contribution credit, and a transportation credit. House Bill 4079A would make changes to the energy tax credit programs, as well as the biomass tax credit.