

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Doherty, Johnson, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Richardson, Smith, Thatcher, Vega Pederson, Holvey
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Bob Estabrook, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/7, 3/28, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Director of Department of Consumer and Business Services to enter into agreement with one or more municipalities to administer and enforce all or portion of building inspection program in geographic area. Allows Director to use department resources, municipal resources, or combination of resources to fulfill agreement. Limits review or challenge of agreement. Sets requirements for fees and rates that apply under agreement. Requires Director to consult with appropriate advisory boards annually and report to Legislative Assembly biennially on activities related to agreements. Specifies that agreement is not abandonment of building inspection program. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Oregon’s use of uniform statewide building code
- Declining permit revenue and permit volume, especially in rural counties
- Job impact of building inspection timeliness
- Collaboration between state and municipalities to promote efficient use of resources

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces original measure.

BACKGROUND: The Building Codes Division (BCD) of the Department of Consumer and Business Services provides code development, administration, inspection, plan review, licensing, and permit services to the construction industry. The division was added to the newly formed Department in 1993. Under current law, municipalities may administer a building inspection program for a period of four years. If a municipality does not wish to continue to administer a program or does not notify the BCD of its intentions, the county in which the city is located must administer the program, but if a county notifies BCD that it will not administer the program, BCD must contract with a municipality or other state agency to provide for the administration of the program.

House Bill 3144 A allows the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services to enter into agreements with one or more municipalities to operate the building inspection program in an agreed geographic area. Such agreements are specifically stated to not be an abandonment of a program and the Director has flexibility to utilize department resources, municipal resources, or some combination thereof. The measure also requires consultation with the appropriate advisory boards and regular reporting to the Legislative Assembly regarding activity related to agreements.