

HB 2322 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to amend its statewide land use planning goals, including goals related to energy conservation, and authorizes LCDC to propose and adopt amendments to land use goals and guidelines. Establishes that amendments to statewide land use planning goals be adopted according to procedures under ORS 197.235 (4) and be consistent with the following legislative findings: 1) it is a priority of Oregon to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, minimize climate change impacts, and support a healthy environment; 2) shifting Oregon away from fossil fuels promotes energy independence, which is a priority of the state; 3) the development of renewable energy facilities supports local jobs; 4) the legislature has adopted policies to promote Oregon's green economy, including a renewable portfolio standard and a community solar program; 5) land use planning in Oregon should promote the development of renewable energy facilities, help meet state energy policies, promote technologies that facilitate efficient integration of energy resources, and facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; and 6) the current statewide land use planning goals are not consistent with state energy policy and should be amended.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's rapid population growth and development during the 1960s and 1970s prompted concern about the effect growth might have on the environment, natural resources, and the livability of communities. In a state where agriculture and timber are two of the largest industries, there was concern that conversion of farm and resource lands for development presented a threat to the state's economy. Sprawling development was also thought to increase the cost of public services, as unplanned cities require more streets, longer sewers, and more police and fire fighters.

These concerns led to the passage of Senate Bill 100 (1973). The legislation established the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) that was charged with adopting state land use goals, and the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), charged with assisting LCDC and local governments in the implementation of those goals and with coordinating state agencies in land use matters. In addition, SB 100 directed local governments to adopt and implement comprehensive plans and revise them periodically in accordance with statewide goals and the needs and desires of the public.

After extensive review and public input, LCDC initially adopted 14 statewide land use planning goals in 1974, and added five additional goals over the next three years. Most of the goals are accompanied by "guidelines" that suggest how they should be applied, though these guidelines are not mandatory. Administrative rules have been adopted to help interpret and implement many of the statewide goals. The 19 statewide goals are:

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- Goal 1: Citizen involvement
- Goal 2: Land use planning
- Goal 3: Agricultural lands
- Goal 4: Forest lands
- Goal 5: Natural resources, scenic and historic areas, and open spaces
- Goal 6: Air, water, and land resources quality
- Goal 7: Areas subject to natural hazards
- Goal 8: Recreational needs
- Goal 9: Economic development
- Goal 10: Housing
- Goal 11: Public facilities and services
- Goal 12: Transportation
- Goal 13: Energy conservation
- Goal 14: Urbanization
- Goal 15: Willamette River Greenway
- Goal 16: Estuarine resources
- Goal 17: Coastal shorelines
- Goal 18: Beaches and dunes
- Goal 19: Ocean resources

House Bill 2322 would direct LCDC to amend statewide land use planning goals to take into account legislative findings that prioritize the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and other climate goals; shifting away from fossil fuels to promote energy independence and support local jobs; achievement of state energy policies; and promotion of energy technologies that facilitate the efficient integration of energy resources.