

**SB 45 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources**

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**Action Date:** 04/04/19

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. Refer to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng).

**Vote:** 4-1-0-0

**Yeas:** 4 - Dembrow, Olsen, Prozanski, Roblan

**Nays:** 1 - Bentz

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued

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**Meeting Dates:** 4/4

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Changes fees charged by the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries for the following permits: mineral exploration, mining operations, exclusion certificate renewals, gas and oil drilling and exploration, and geothermal well drilling operation. Limits permit application for onshore exploration permit to a single contiguous exploration boundary that is no more than 640 acres. Removes option to obtain a time extension to drill a well under an unused permit. Limits permit application for oil and gas information wells to five wells drilled in a contiguous 640 acres. Limits permit application for drilling prospect wells to a contiguous project area that includes no more than 640 acres.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Fee levels
- Most recent fee increase

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Limits permit application for onshore exploration permit to a single contiguous exploration boundary that is no more than 640 acres. Makes exclusion certificate renewal fee not to exceed \$165.

**BACKGROUND:**

Mineral exploration and production in Oregon is regulated by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), in cooperation with other state, federal, and local agencies to ensure the protection of adjacent natural resources and future beneficial use of mined lands. A five-member Governing Board of citizens, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Oregon Senate, oversees the department.

Senate Bill 45-A would change permit fees charged by DOGAMI.