

HB 2657 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 3/29, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to approve or disapprove application for permit within 60 days of receipt. Authorizes Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) to establish by rule an alternative timeline for permits that require public participation, as determined by the commission, including public notice, public comments, or a public hearing, before a permit may be approved and must require that a permit be approved or disapproved within 30 days of the close of a comment period. Permit timelines become operative January 1, 2022. Authorizes EQC to take any action before the operative date if necessary for the department to exercise all of the duties, functions and powers related to rulemaking. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) manage, issue permits for, and require compliance with sewage, solid waste, hazardous waste, water quality, and other environmental standards and state and federal policies.

House Bill 2657 would require the DEQ to approve or disapprove application for permit within 60 days of receipt or according to timeline established by EQC for permits that require public participation. Permit timelines would become operative January 1, 2022.