

SB 119 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Labor and Business

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Meeting Dates: 1/17, 1/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Department of Transportation, Oregon Department of Administrative Services, and any state contracting agency that use funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for use in public improvement to study the use of apprentices in public improvement projects and public works projects. Defines key terms. Directs each department and state contracting agency to report results of study to the legislature by September 15, 2024. Specifies topics of study and report. Sunsets January 2, 2025. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Overview of apprenticeship in Oregon
- Projected skilled labor shortage
- Data collection includes diversity of participants

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The American Rescue Plan Act (Act) was passed by Congress in 2021 to address a variety of issues raised by the pandemic. In part, the Act provided resources to state, local, and tribal governments to invest in infrastructure and address revenue losses caused by the pandemic. House Bill 5006 (2021) and House Bill 5202 (2022) addressed the use of Act resources within Oregon. Additionally, House Bill 3011 (2021) required specified Act projects to employ apprentices.

Oregon law governs apprenticeship and training programs. The State Apprenticeship and Training Council (Council) is tasked with enforcing Oregon apprenticeship and training law. The Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries appoints the State Director of Apprenticeship and Training, who works as secretary to the Council.

Senate Bill 119 requires the Department of Transportation, Oregon Department of Administrative Services, and any state contracting agency that uses funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 in connection with public improvement to study the use of apprentices in public improvement and public works projects.