# HB 2530 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

## House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

**Prepared By:** Erin Pischke, LPRO Analyst
**Meeting Dates:** 2/6

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to convene work group to examine, evaluate, and develop statewide strategies to accelerate development of state renewable hydrogen industry and related infrastructure, technologies, and end uses. Establishes work group membership criteria. Requires work group, at a minimum, in developing strategies for renewable hydrogen, to examine and evaluate the following: 1) appropriate end-use cases; 2) barriers and pathways to industry and market development; 3) development, regulatory, and siting standards for production, transmission, and distribution; 4) infrastructure needed to accelerate and sustain development; 5) methods and mechanisms for facilitating coordination that will accelerate development; 6) potential partnerships between business, industry, transportation, workforce and labor, universities and community colleges, public agencies, and environmental justice communities; 7) economic, environmental, and social impacts from development; 8) environmental and health improvements, particularly for environmental justice communities; and 9) workforce development and support. Directs ODOE to submit report on work group's findings and recommendations to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to energy and economic development no later than September 15, 2024. Repeals work group and reporting requirements on January 2, 2025. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

- *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:**

Hydrogen is the most abundant element in the universe, but on earth it rarely occurs naturally in its pure state. Instead, hydrogen is usually combined with other elements such as oxygen or carbon. When produced from wind or other renewable resources, hydrogen can store carbon-free energy that can later be used to generate electricity or power vehicles. Currently, most hydrogen is produced from fossil fuels, specifically natural gas. Electricity—from the grid or from renewable sources such as wind, solar, geothermal, or biomass—is also currently used to produce hydrogen. According to the United States Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, in the longer term, solar energy and biomass can be used more directly to generate hydrogen.

A 2022 study conducted by the Oregon Department of Energy on the benefits and barriers to renewable hydrogen production and use in Oregon "recommends development of a **renewable hydrogen roadmap** as part of a larger state energy strategy formation."

House Bill 2530 would direct the Oregon Department of Energy to convene a work group to examine, evaluate, and develop statewide strategies to accelerate development of state's renewable hydrogen industry.