

SB 123 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Carrier: Sen. Dembrow

Action Date: 03/30/23
Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)
Vote: 4-1-0-0
Yeas: 4 - Findley, Golden, Lieber, Sollman
Nays: 1 - Hayden
Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
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Meeting Dates: 3/28, 3/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires, no later than December 31, 2027, a producer responsibility organization to: consider and develop recommendations for the use of digital labeling by producers to convey information about recyclability claims when developing educational resources and promotional campaigns; and include digital labeling recommendation in producer responsibility program plan submitted to Department of Environmental Quality. Sunsets Act January 2, 2033.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Consumer confusion as to what is recyclable
- Use of smart labeling in other systems
- Current actions of producer responsibility organizations established by Senate Bill 582, 2021

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

The Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act (SB 582, 2021) directed the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to establish a Truth in Labeling Task Force. According to the Task Force's final report, "public confusion about what and how to recycle has been one of several root drivers of instability in Oregon's recycling system." In order to address this confusion, the Task Force was directed to study smart labeling and make recommendations for legislation to the Legislative Assembly. The Task Force expressed that a diverse group of interested parties should identify best practices for how to integrate commonly used smart- labeling technologies into labels to ensure accessibility and comprehension.

Senate Bill 123 A would require a producer responsibility organization to consider and develop recommendations for using digital labeling to convey information about recyclability claims and include digital labeling recommendations in their producer responsibility program plan submitted to the DEQ.