

HB 2531 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Carrier: Sen. Sollman

Action Date: 04/27/23
Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)
Vote: 4-1-0-0
Yeas: 4 - Findley, Golden, Lieber, Sollman
Nays: 1 - Hayden
Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Beth Reiley, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 4/20, 4/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits sale or distribution in or into Oregon of new screw- or bayonet-base type compact fluorescent lamps as a new manufactured product on or after January 1, 2024. Prohibits sale or distribution in or into Oregon of new pin-base type compact fluorescent lamps and linear fluorescent lamps as a new manufactured product on or after January 1, 2025. Permits continued sale and distribution of certain types of lamps. Allows Environmental Quality Commission to adopt rules necessary to enforce prohibition on sale or distribution of certain fluorescent lamps. Establishes civil penalty for any person who violates prohibition, rule, or order pertaining to sale and distribution of certain fluorescent lamps. Repeals statutes related to mercury in lighting products on January 1, 2025. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Availability of "drop-in" replacement bulbs that do not require light fixtures to be replaced
- Potential energy savings

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Expands list of compact fluorescent lamps exempted from prohibition to include a compact fluorescent lamp used to replace a lamp in a motor vehicle manufactured on or before January 1, 2020.

BACKGROUND:

Fluorescent bulbs, such as compact fluorescent light bulbs, contain mercury which can be released into the environment as a liquid or vapor when a bulb breaks. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, mercury exposure can cause adverse health effects in humans, harming internal organs and the nervous system, as well as in fish and wildlife. Vermont and California have banned the sale and distribution of certain fluorescent lamps starting in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

House Bill 2531 A prohibits the sale or distribution in Oregon of certain types of new compact fluorescent lamps and linear fluorescent lamps.