

HB 3309 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Carrier: Sen. Sollman

Action Date: 05/08/23
Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.
Vote: 4-0-0-1
Yeas: 4 - Anderson, Jama, Patterson, Sollman
Abs: 1 - Knopp
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Kevin Rancik, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 5/3, 5/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to provide annual report to appropriate interim committee of Legislative Assembly by September 15 of each year, beginning in 2024, on dwelling units containing certain accessibility features receiving loans, grants, or other funding from OHCS. Allows OHCS to define “accessible unit” by rule, in consultation with the Department of Consumer and Business Services. Directs Housing Stability Council to incorporate incentives in funding offerings to increase quantity and quality of accessible units. Directs OHCS to consider advice from disability community members or advocates on housing and community service programs. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- How accessible units are defined
- Cost of renovations to make units accessible
- Origin of bill concept

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that privately owned and publicly assisted housing, whether for rental or for sale, meets accessibility requirements of the Fair Housing Act in buildings constructed after March 13, 1991. All federally assisted housing developments of five or more units are required to have five percent of their dwelling units (or at least one unit, whichever is greater) to be “accessible for persons with mobility disabilities.”

The 2010 United States Department of Justice ADA Standards for Accessible Design set minimum requirements for new design, construction, and alteration of public and commercial facilities for the use of individuals with disabilities. New requirements covered fixed or built-in elements in locations such as courtrooms and amusement facilities, and clarified issues involving reach ranges, restroom sizing, and accessible movement. Provisions were also made for notification devices and the ability to visually identify a visitor without having to open a dwelling unit door.

House Bill 3309 A directs Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to annually report to the Legislative Assembly on dwelling units receiving OHCS moneys and include counts and percentages of units with accessibility features. The measure directs the Housing Stability Council to include incentives to increase the quantity and quality of accessible units, and it directs OHCS to consider advice from disability community members or advocates on housing and community service programs.