

SB 825 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Prepared By: Beth Reiley, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the program for state agency facility energy design to minimize costs of reports to state agencies and minimize duplication of reporting requirements under the energy performance program for covered commercial buildings. Removes a requirement that the Director of the State Department of Energy submit a biennial report to the Legislative Assembly on the small-scale local energy loan program funds.

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:

In 1991, the assembly adopted a policy for the state “that facilities to be constructed or purchased by authorized state agencies be designed, constructed, renovated and operated so as to minimize the use of energy resources and to serve as models of energy efficiency (ORS 276.900). This policy is implemented through the State Energy Efficient Design (SEED) Program. The SEED program requires state agencies to build and renovate buildings using energy efficient design methods. Authorized state agencies are required to report annually to the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) concerning energy use in authorized buildings.

In 2023, the Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 3409 which established an energy performance standard for covered commercial buildings to regulate the energy consumption of certain commercial buildings in Oregon and required state agencies to report annual energy use.

Senate Bill 825 directs ODOE to minimize the cost of the reports and minimize duplication of reporting requirements.

In 1979, the Oregon State Legislature established the Small-Scale Local Energy Loan Program (SELP) to provide long-term fixed rate loans for energy projects. According to the Small-Scale Local Energy Loan Program Biennial Program Report, 2023 more than 900 loans have been issued through the SELP program. SELP is currently inactive and new loans have not been originated since 2015. The program will continue to service the existing loan portfolio and make related bond debt payments until 2034.

Senate Bill 825 eliminates the requirement that the ODOE Director submit a biennial report to the Legislative Assembly on the small-scale local energy loan program funds.