

HB 3780 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure removes newspaper from some state producer responsibility laws.

Detailed summary:

Modifies definition of “printing and writing paper” to exclude newspaper in state producer responsibility laws.

Removes newspaper publishers as producers of covered products under state producer responsibility laws.

Removes newspaper publishers from types of organizations that must pay for membership in a producer responsibility organization. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

- *FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement issued yet*
- *REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement issued yet*

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

January 2018, the Chinese government banned the import of certain plastic and paper grades and set tighter contamination standards for paper. The loss of China’s markets disrupted recycling systems worldwide. In Oregon, communities had to make changes to their recycling collection programs, which included: increased customer rates, suspending recycling, or removing items from programs. In some cases, materials that were collected for recycling were disposed. In May 2018, the Department of Environmental Quality formed the Recycling Steering Committee (RSC) with the intention of working with stakeholders to modernize Oregon’s recycling systems. The RSC met from May 2018 through September 2020.

Senate Bill 582 (2021) made significant changes to Oregon's recycling system that include, but are not limited to: requiring that covered producers become a member of a producer responsibility organization which ensures that products collected are recycled by responsible end markets; establishing statewide recycling rates for plastic and recycling contamination reduction goals; and addressing the development and implementation of educational resources and promotional campaigns.