

HB 2067 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/18, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Energy to establish by rule a rebate program for the purchase of battery-powered leaf blowers.

Detailed summary:

Defines terms. Requires the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to establish by rule a program for providing rebates to commercial contractors, landscape construction professionals, and landscape contracting businesses for the purchase of battery-powered leaf blowers, operative on January 1, 2026. Establishes rebate amounts that are equal to 50 percent of the price paid by the person requesting the rebate for a battery-powered leaf blower and any new batteries or new battery chargers necessary for the person to use the battery-powered leaf blower for ordinary business reasons. Establishes the Commercial Landscape Equipment Rebate Fund (Fund) in the State Treasury, with moneys in the Fund continuously appropriated to ODOE. Appropriates \$___ for deposit in the Fund. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Challenges to recharging electric equipment in extreme weather
- Benefits to transitioning to battery-powered equipment
- Provisions of amendment
- Potential cost of rebate program

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 The amendment makes changes to the rebate program for the purchase of battery-powered leaf blowers and appropriates \$2 million for deposit in the Commercial Landscape Equipment Rebate Fund.

Detailed summary:

Adds purpose of the rebate program. Adds requirements for ODOE rulemaking. Adds reporting requirement for ODOE. Adds sunset date of January 2, 2031, to rebate program. Appropriates \$2 million for deposit in the Commercial Landscape Equipment Rebate Fund.

- *FISCAL: Fiscal impact statement issued*
- *REVENUE: Revenue impact statement issued*

BACKGROUND:

Leaf blowers are popular commercial landscaping tools that can be powered by gas, electricity, or batteries. Gas-powered leaf blowers emit greenhouse gas emissions and can create noise pollution. Battery-powered leaf blowers can minimize noise pollution but may be cost prohibitive for commercial landscapers to adopt.