

SB 1061 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Action Date: 04/08/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 4-1-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Bonham, Patterson, Pham, Taylor

Nays: 1 - Hayden

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/13, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon State University Extension Service, in consultation with the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), to establish a basic lumber grading training pilot program that would be offered annually through the extension service. Specifies what the pilot program must include. The measure directs the extension service to issue certifications and recertifications to individuals who successfully complete the pilot program and requires recertification every five years. The measure directs DCBS to establish by rule a process for a builder, designer, or owner to use lumber that is tested and approved by an individual who is certified under this pilot program and specifies what these rules shall and shall not include. Sunsets on January 2, 2033.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Relationship of Oregon's Building Code to the measure
- Use of lumber that would be graded by persons certified through this program
- Current process for grading lumber
- Other states with a similar program
- Role of the American Lumber Standard Committee
- Potential impact of measure on housing production
- Need for safety regulations
- Potential impact on rural economies and local economic development

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

The American Lumber Standard Committee (ALSC) developed the American Softwood Lumber Standard (Standard) in accordance with the U.S. Department of Commerce's *Procedures for the Development of Voluntary Product Standards*. Voluntary Product Standards are developed under procedures published by the U.S. Department of Commerce in Title 15 Code of Federal Regulations Part 10. The intent of these standards is to have nationally recognized requirements for products and the use of Voluntary Product Standards is voluntary. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) administers the Voluntary Product Standards Program.

The Secretary of Commerce appoints membership on the ALSC with a mix of producers, distributors, and consumers of softwood lumber. The ALSC maintains the Standard and establishes other related policies and standards. The Standard allows for the grading of structural lumber by visual and mechanical means. The Standard applies to domestic production of lumber and to lumber imported into the United States.

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