

Enrolled

House Bill 2081

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Revenue for Representative Nancy Nathanson)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to state finance; and prescribing an effective date.

Whereas the purpose of the Public Employees Retirement Fund portfolio is to seek strong returns for beneficiaries, as per the fiduciary relationship described in ORS 238.660, 293.721 and 293.726 and in consideration of ORS 192.355 and contractual obligations; and

Whereas the expected global economic shifts due to a rapidly changing climate call for investment solutions that are likely to encourage a transition to a net-zero future; and

Whereas fluctuations in federal policy and market trends can have a long-term impact on an investment strategy to address the financial risks related to a changing climate; and

Whereas the increasing frequency and severity of extreme weather events pose significant risks to infrastructure, operations and supply chains across multiple sectors; and

Whereas the urgency justifies taking every possible action in the fund portfolio to reduce investment risks associated with a rapidly changing climate; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Just transition” means efforts to ensure that the transition to a low-carbon economy is fair, collaborative and inclusive.

(b) “Scope 1 emissions” means emissions from sources that a firm owns or controls directly.

(c) “Scope 2 emissions” means emissions from the production of energy used by a firm.

(2) The Oregon Investment Council and State Treasurer, in the State Treasurer’s role as investment officer for the council, shall act reasonably and in a manner consistent with ORS 238.660, 293.721, 293.726 and 192.355 and contractual obligations to:

(a) Actively analyze and manage the risks of climate change to the Public Employees Retirement Fund, including reporting on and analyzing the risks of the levels of scope 1 and scope 2 emissions of fossil fuel investments within the fund;

(b) Analyze how the integration of climate change analysis will help to achieve overall portfolio return objectives;

(c) Pursue the goal of reducing the carbon intensity of the fund through a preference for investments that reduce net greenhouse gas emissions in order to participate in the energy transition; and

(d) Provide a report, in collaboration with beneficiaries of the fund, to the Legislative Assembly each biennium about the progress toward an investment program that addresses

the impact of climate change factors on the investment portfolio, which may include, without limitation:

(A) Reporting on progress toward carbon intensity investment goals as established by the State Treasurer;

(B) Reporting on progress toward investing in public equity holdings that incorporate the tenets of a just transition in their overall priorities and portfolio; and

(C) Incorporation of pertinent advancements and methodologies in measuring progress towards goals and benchmarks, recognizing that the science and methods of carbon intensity measurement are regularly evolving.

(3) The Oregon Investment Council, jointly and individually, the State Treasurer and employees of the office of the State Treasurer shall be indemnified and held harmless by the State of Oregon from all claims and damages incurred pursuant to this section.

(4) Nothing in this section requires the Oregon Investment Council or the State Treasurer to take any action pursuant to this section unless the council or State Treasurer determines in good faith that the action is consistent with fiduciary responsibilities as described in ORS 238.660, 293.721 and 293.726.

SECTION 2. This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2025 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

Passed by House May 1, 2025

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate June 16, 2025

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Rob Wagner, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2025

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2025

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Tina Kotek, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2025

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Tobias Read, Secretary of State