

# House Bill 3016

Sponsored by Representative NERON; Representative HELM (Pre-session filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: This Act tells the EQC to give rebates to people that replace gas lawn and garden tools with electric lawn and garden tools. (Flesch Readability Score: 73.1).

Directs the Environmental Quality Commission to establish a program to provide rebate vouchers for the replacement of combustion lawn and garden equipment with zero-emission lawn and garden equipment.

Establishes the Lawn and Garden Equipment Rebate Fund.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to a rebate program for zero-emission landscaping equipment; and prescribing an effective  
3 date.

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

5 **SECTION 1. Sections 2 and 3 of this 2025 Act are added to and made a part of ORS**  
6 **chapter 468.**

7 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

8 (a) **“Approved disposal facility” means a facility that has been approved by the Depart-**  
9 **ment of Environmental Quality to accept, destroy and dispose of eligible equipment in ac-**  
10 **cordance with all applicable laws.**

11 (b) **“Combustion lawn and garden equipment” means equipment that:**

12 (A) **Is a chainsaw, trimmer, edger, brushcutter, leaf blower, leaf vacuum, walk-behind**  
13 **lawn mower or ride-on lawn mower;**

14 (B) **Is powered by an internal combustion engine; and**

15 (C) **Meets any other criteria established by the Environmental Quality Commission by**  
16 **rule.**

17 (c) **“Eligible equipment” means combustion lawn and garden equipment that:**

18 (A) **Is in working condition; and**

19 (B) **Has been owned and used in this state by an applicant for at least two years.**

20 (d) **“Participating retailer” means a retail seller of zero-emission lawn and garden**  
21 **equipment that has entered into an agreement with the program administrator to participate**  
22 **in the rebate program established under this section.**

23 (e) **“Program administrator” means:**

24 (A) **A third-party organization that the department hires or contracts with to administer**  
25 **the program established under this section; or**

26 (B) **The department, if the department does not hire or contract with a third-party or-**  
27 **ganization.**

28 (f) **“Zero-emission lawn and garden equipment” means equipment that:**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (A) Is a chainsaw, trimmer, edger, brushcutter, leaf blower, leaf vacuum, walk-behind  
2 lawn mower or ride-on lawn mower;

3 (B) Is cordless;

4 (C) Is powered by an electric motor; and

5 (D) Meets any other criteria established by the commission by rule.

6 (2) The Environmental Quality Commission shall establish by rule a program to provide  
7 rebate vouchers to residential and commercial applicants for the replacement of combustion  
8 lawn and garden equipment with zero-emission lawn and garden equipment. The Department  
9 of Environmental Quality may hire or contract with a third-party organization to implement  
10 and serve as the program administrator.

11 (3) To be eligible to receive a rebate voucher, an applicant must complete an application  
12 in the form and manner prescribed by the commission that includes:

13 (a) A description of the eligible equipment that the applicant intends to replace;

14 (b) Certification that the applicant owns the eligible equipment and has operated the eli-  
15 gible equipment in this state for at least two years;

16 (c) A description of the zero-emission lawn and garden equipment the applicant intends  
17 to purchase;

18 (d) Certification that the applicant will own and operate the zero-emission lawn and  
19 garden equipment in this state for at least three years;

20 (e) Certification that the applicant will surrender the eligible equipment to the program  
21 administrator or an approved disposal facility for destruction and disposal; and

22 (f) Evidence that the applicant is an Oregon resident.

23 (4)(a) A voucher recipient must surrender eligible equipment to the program adminis-  
24 trator or an approved disposal facility for destruction and disposal within 30 days of pur-  
25 chasing replacement zero-emission lawn and garden equipment using a rebate voucher  
26 provided under the program.

27 (b) The program administrator or the approved disposal facility shall verify that eligible  
28 equipment surrendered for disposal:

29 (A) Matches the description of the eligible equipment in the voucher recipient's applica-  
30 tion; and

31 (B) Is in working condition.

32 (5) The maximum amount of a rebate voucher allowed for an applicant shall be as follows:

33 (a) For chainsaws, trimmers, edgers or brushcutters:

34 (A) \$300 for residential applicants; and

35 (B) \$700 for commercial applicants.

36 (b) For leaf blowers or leaf vacuums:

37 (A) \$200 for residential applicants; and

38 (B) \$1,400 for commercial applicants.

39 (c) For walk-behind lawn mowers:

40 (A) \$330 for residential applicants; and

41 (B) \$1,500 for commercial applicants.

42 (d) For ride-on lawn mowers:

43 (A) \$2,000 for residential applicants; and

44 (B) \$15,000 for commercial applicants.

45 (6)(a) Rebate vouchers may only be used to purchase zero-emission lawn and garden

1 equipment and any batteries or charging cables necessary for the use of zero-emission lawn  
2 and garden equipment that are purchased as part of the same transaction.

3 (b) A rebate voucher may not be issued for an amount that exceeds the cost of all zero-  
4 emission lawn and garden equipment, batteries and charging cords that the voucher recipient  
5 plans to purchase.

6 (c) A rebate voucher may only be used to purchase zero-emission lawn and garden  
7 equipment that is of the same equipment type and performs the same function as the eligible  
8 equipment that it will replace.

9 (7) The program administrator shall enter into agreements with participating retailers.  
10 A participating retailer must:

11 (a) Agree to accept rebate vouchers for the purchase of zero-emission lawn and garden  
12 equipment and be reimbursed by the program administrator at a later date; and

13 (b) Comply with all program rules and policies established by the commission.

14 (8)(a) The department may designate as an approved disposal facility, any facility that the  
15 department determines is equipped to accept, destroy and dispose of eligible equipment in  
16 accordance with all applicable laws.

17 (b) Before participating in the rebate program, an approved disposal facility must enter  
18 into an agreement with the program administrator stating that the approved disposal facility  
19 will:

20 (A) Accept, destroy and dispose of eligible equipment;

21 (B) Verify that eligible equipment is in working condition at the time it is presented for  
22 disposal; and

23 (C) Comply with all program rules and policies established by the commission.

24 (9) A voucher recipient that does not satisfy the requirements of subsection (4) of this  
25 section shall reimburse the program administrator for the full amount of the voucher.

26 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Lawn and Garden Equipment Rebate Fund is established in the State  
27 Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Lawn and  
28 Garden Equipment Rebate Fund shall be credited to the fund.

29 (2) Moneys in the Lawn and Garden Equipment Rebate Fund shall consist of:

30 (a) Amounts donated to the fund;

31 (b) Amounts appropriated or otherwise transferred to the fund by the Legislative As-  
32 sembly;

33 (c) Other amounts deposited in the fund from any public or private source; and

34 (d) Interest earned by the fund.

35 (3) Moneys in the Lawn and Garden Equipment Rebate Fund are continuously appropri-  
36 ated to Department of Environmental Quality to carry out the provisions of section 2 of this  
37 2025 Act.

38 (4) No more than 10 percent of the moneys deposited in the fund per biennium may be  
39 expended to pay administrative expenses incurred in the administration of section 2 of this  
40 2025 Act by:

41 (a) The department; and

42 (b) Any third-party organization that the department hires or contracts with under sec-  
43 tion 2 of this 2025 Act.

44 **SECTION 4.** This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2025  
45 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

