CHAPTER 35

AN ACT    SB 1518

Relating to building codes; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Resilient Efficient Buildings is established.
(2) The task force consists of 27 members appointed as follows:
   (a) The President of the Senate shall appoint a Republican member of the Senate to the task force and shall appoint as cochair of the task force the member of the Senate who chairs the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment at the time of the appointment.
   (b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint a Republican member of the House of Representatives and shall appoint as cochair of the task force the member of the House of Representatives who chairs the House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources at the time of the appointment.
   (c) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall jointly appoint 23 additional members of the task force with the aim of representing the geographic diversity of this state and obtaining the benefit of specific experience in areas of concern to the task force. The additional membership must consist of:
      (A) Two members who represent the construction trades, at least one of whom represents electrical workers and at least one of whom has experience with apprenticeship;
      (B) Two members who represent builders, general contractors or developers that construct commercial buildings, multifamily housing or affordable housing, at least one of whom has experience constructing buildings with energy efficiency that exceeds current building code requirements;
      (C) Two members who represent builders, general contractors or developers that do residential development, at least one of whom has experience in constructing buildings with energy efficiency that exceeds current building code requirements;
      (D) One member who represents architects;
      (E) Two members who represent firms that are subcontractors for other builders or developers, at least one of whom represents an electrical subcontractor;
      (F) One member who represents building owners or operators;
      (G) Two members who have expertise in making or implementing policies to respond to climate change or energy use policies;
      (H) One member who represents a utility that provides electricity service in this state;
      (I) One member who represents a utility that provides natural gas service in this state;
      (J) One member who advocates for public utility ratepayers;
      (K) Two members who represent local governments, as defined in ORS 174.116, one of whom must represent an urban region of this state and one of whom must represent a rural region of this state;
      (L) Two members who represent groups that advocate for environmental justice;
      (M) One member who represents advocates for affordable housing;
      (N) One member who is involved in or familiar with energy efficiency incentive programs;
      (O) One member who represents a public health perspective or is employed in public health; and
      (P) One member with experience in developing, implementing or enforcing building codes.
(3) The task force shall:
   (a) Identify and evaluate policies related to building codes and building decarbonization for new and existing buildings that would enable this state to meet the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals set forth in ORS 468A.205 while maximizing additional benefits, such as increasing energy efficiency, improving resilience against climate change, improving public health and air quality, reducing the percentage of household income that goes toward energy costs and mitigating displacement and toward mitigating other impacts that result from wildfires, heat waves and other climate change events;
   (b) Consider, in developing the task force’s recommendations, costs, savings and benefits of policies that relate to residential, commercial and industrial buildings, which may include:
      (A) Upfront and longer-term economic, environmental, climate and health costs, savings and benefits, along with lifecycle emissions and the social cost of carbon; and
      (B) Information and advice that agencies of state government provide under subsection (11) of this section;
   (c) Receive testimony, perform research, consult experts, review appropriate literature, solicit feedback from disproportionately impacted communities around this state and otherwise undertake activities to inform task force members with respect to the scope of the task force’s duties;
   (d) Make policy recommendations for legislation to interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the environment before the 2023 regular session of the Legislative Assembly;
   (e) Contract, in consultation with the cochairs of the task force and through the Legislative Policy and Research Office, with a contractor that can provide process facilitation, necessary data, technical expertise or advice on
best practices for meeting the requirements set forth in this subsection; and

(f) Perform as needed other tasks supplemental or related to the tasks described in this subsection.

(4) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

(5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members of the task force.

(6) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

(7) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the cochairs of the task force or of a majority of the members of the task force.

(8) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

(9) The task force shall report to the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided in ORS 192.245 at any time within 30 days after its final meeting or at a time the President and Speaker designate.

(10) The Legislative Policy and Research Director may employ persons necessary for the performance of the functions of the task force. The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall fix the duties and amounts of compensation of the employees. The task force shall use the services of continuing legislative staff, without employing additional persons, to the greatest extent practicable.

(11) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, the Environmental Justice Task Force and the Environmental Equity Committee of the Racial Justice Council are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2022 Act is repealed on December 31, 2023.

SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Legislative Policy and Research Committee, for the biennium ending June 30, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of $279,359 to support the performance of the functions of the Task Force on Resilient Efficient Buildings established in section 1 of this 2022 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2022 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2022 Act takes effect on its passage.

Approved by the Governor March 17, 2022
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