AN ACT

Relating to energy source conversion programs; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Environmental Quality shall conduct a study and develop recommendations for legislation to reduce woodstove smoke. The study shall evaluate:
   (a) Strategies to reduce woodstove smoke in communities where attainment of the national air quality standards prescribed in the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7409, is a concern, including but not limited to:
      (A) Options for transitioning from older, high-polluting woodstoves to cleaner-burning home heating alternatives; and
      (B) Options for reducing the cost of using woodstove alternatives for home heating during poor air quality days;
   (b) The use of biomass in home heating;
   (c) Opportunities to develop the production and use of high-quality wood pellet fuel in Oregon;
   (d) The role of subsidies to encourage wood pellet use in households; and
   (e) Potential economic and public health effects of woodstove smoke in communities where attainment of the national air quality standards prescribed in the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7409, is a concern.

   (2) The Department of Environmental Quality shall form a work group for the purpose of conducting the study described in this section. The work group shall include representatives from other state agencies, stakeholders, elected officials and other individuals who the department determines have expertise that will inform the study. Members of the work group shall represent urban and rural communities and different geographic regions of this state.

   (3) In conducting the study described in this section, the department shall:
      (a) Collaborate with the State Department of Energy, State Forestry Department, Oregon Business Development Department and Public Utility Commission; and
      (b) Consult with members of the public from rural and urban communities, as well as different regions of the state, about its preliminary findings and recommendations relating to potential strategies to reduce woodstove smoke.

   (4) The department shall submit an initial report on its preliminary findings and recommendations to a legislative committee related to the environment and natural resources in Oregon.
the manner provided under ORS 192.245 during the 2016 regular session of the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly.

(5) The department shall submit a final report on the results of the study and recommendations for legislation or budget requests to the interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to the environment and natural resources in the manner provided under ORS 192.245 on or before September 15, 2016.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2015 Act is repealed on January 2, 2017.

SECTION 3. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by House April 23, 2015

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate June 9, 2015

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

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Approved:

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

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Jeanne P. Atkins, Secretary of State