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Press Release

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Representative Riley Helps Bring Green Jobs to Oregon with Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC)

Salem - Today, the Oregon House of Representatives moved the BETC reform one step further. Last week the House passed HB 3680 and today HB 3681. Both HB 3680 and HB 3681 went through the House Revenue Committee of which Representative Riley (D-Hillsboro) is a member. Representative Riley played a major role in shaping both bills.

“While I see the Business Energy Tax Credit as a good thing, too much of a good thing can hurt you,” Rep. Riley noted, referring to the fact that without the BETC being updated and reformed, it would cost Oregon hundreds of millions of dollars a year - a rate that would quickly bankrupt the state.

“I support the policies of HB 3680 because it makes the BETC more responsible to tax payers. It also forces more transparency and accountability of government and the corporations that apply for these tax credits.” Said Riley, “Because of the original scope of the BETC there was room for abuse, but that is no longer the case thanks to HB 3680.”

While HB 3680 deals primarily with renewable energy facilities such as wind farms, HB 3681 takes a look at the Business Energy Tax Credit for manufacturing of green technologies.

“The bottom line is that the BETC has been instrumental in creating thousands of jobs” said Riley, “and if we can put people to work in a growing industry, then Oregon can continue to lead the nation in green technology development. We want Oregonians to know that if they want a job of the future, Oregon is the place to get it.”

Both BETC bills - HB 3680 and HB 3681 - are headed to the State Senate and are expected to be passed to the Governor’s desk for his signature with little or no delay.

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