

**2007 Regular Legislative Session**  
**FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**  
**Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office**

**MEASURE NUMBER:** HB 3543                      **STATUS:** A-Engrossed  
**SUBJECT:** Creation of Global Warming Commission and Climate Change Research Institute  
**GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED:** Department of Energy and Department of Higher Education  
**PREPARED BY:** Dawn Farr  
**REVIEWED BY:** Michelle Deister and Steve Bender  
**DATE:** May 14, 2007

	<u>2007-2009</u>	<u>2009-2011</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES: Department of Higher Education</b>		
Personal Services	\$ 238,722	\$ 477,444
Services and Supplies	\$ 11,278	\$ 22,556
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$ 250,000	\$ 500,000

**POSITIONS / FTE:**  
See details below. 6/3.5                      6/3.6

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** On passage.

**GOVERNOR’S BUDGET:** This bill is not anticipated by the Governor’s recommended budget.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANDATE:** This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

**COMMENTS:** The bill sets greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and declares it to be a policy of the state to prepare for the effects of global warming. The bill creates the Oregon Global Warming Commission with the Department of Energy (DOE) providing clerical, technical and management personnel to serve the Commission. The Commission shall recommend ways to coordinate state and local efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon; develop an outreach strategy to educate Oregonians about scientific aspects and economic impacts of global warming; track and evaluate impacts caused by greenhouse gasses and global warming; work to identify incremental targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; and, report to the Legislative Assembly on progress toward achievement of greenhouse gas emission goals. The bill also creates within the Department of Higher Education the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute. The Institute will facilitate research, serve as a climate change information clearinghouse, provide technical assistance to local government, and at least once each biennium, assess the state of climate change science as it relates to impacts on Oregon.

DOE indicates that staff support and reimbursement of Commission expenses can be absorbed with existing resources. The Agency currently provides staffing to the Climate Change Integration Group (CCIG). The purposes of CCIG are four-fold: 1) Assist in prioritizing and implementation of recommendations for greenhouse gas reductions; 2) assess sensitivity, adaptive capacity and vulnerability to human, economic and social systems to climate change and make recommendations for how the state can become more resilient; 3) stimulate new research on mitigation and adaptation strategies; and, 4) provide a clearinghouse for sharing information. The Department assumes that the Oregon Global Warming Commission would replace CCIG. The Legislatively Approved Budget has two positions—a Policy Analyst 3 and Administrative Specialist—dedicated to the various taskforce efforts coordinated by

DOE. The agency assumes that staffing for the Commission will be equivalent to the staffing resources currently allocated to CCIG. The Agency anticipates that meal costs and mileage reimbursements will average approximately \$1,000 per meeting or \$8,000 Other Funds per biennium. Commission members are not compensated for their participation beyond mileage and meals.

The Department of Higher Education indicates that creation of the institute will require a General Fund investment of \$250,000 for 2007-09 and \$500,000 for the 2009-11 biennia. Expenditures cover funding for 6 new positions (3.5 FTE) that will be dedicated to doing the work of the Institute; see table below. Personal Services costs are expected to be \$238,722 for 2007-09 and \$477,444 for the 2009-11 biennia. Services and Supplies are \$11,278 per year. Costs assume that the Institute will not be operational until the second half of the 2007-09 biennium.

**Summary of Institute Staffing**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Percent of FTE</b>
Institute Director	.50
Associate Director	.25
Information/Policy Director	.50
Office Manager	1.00
Office Specialist 1	1.00
IS Web Support	.25
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>3.50</b>

State agencies that have been identified to participate as ex officio members of the Commission have indicated that workload associated with their participation is expected to be minimal and absorbable with existing resources.