

HB 2043 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$1,000,000 from General Fund for biennium beginning July 1, 2017 to carry out noxious weed control activities detailed in ORS Chapter 569. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2017.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

A weed is designated noxious when it is considered by a governmental agency to be injurious to public health, agriculture, recreation, wildlife, or property (Oregon Administrative Rule 603-052-1200). The Oregon Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Control Program coordinates and implements noxious weed control projects with the following priorities: implementing early detection and rapid response projects for new invaders; promoting an intensive biological control program; providing assistance to those implementing integrated weed management projects across the state; maintaining maps for priority listed noxious weeds; conducting statewide inventories and surveys; delivering education outreach programs; and serving as a resource to the Oregon State Weed Board.

County weed control programs are the vehicle for implementing priority weed control projects throughout Oregon. House Bill 3358 (2011) established a grant process for funding designated county weed control districts. As of yet, state funding has not been allocated for grants.

House Bill 2043 would appropriate \$1,000,000 for the 2017-19 biennium for state- and county-level activities related to noxious weed control.