

HB 3327 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Natural Resources

Prepared By: Kailey Kornhauser, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Oregon Independent Science Review Board (Board) and Independent Scientific Review Secretariat (Secretariat). Requires Board consist of seven Governor appointed members. Requires members of the board have: (1) scientific or technical expertise; (2) willingness to engage with stakeholders; (3) ability to communicate complex technical issues; (4) ability to generate questions; (5) objectivity and familiarity with independent scientific review process; (6) ability to chair review process; (7) familiarity with Oregon natural resources and communities; and (8) ability to identify and engage needed expertise. Requires Board: receive, evaluate, and direct Secretariat to convene independent scientific review panels (Panels) to address requests for review; assist secretariat in selecting persons for Panels; assist in framing questions addressed by Panels; provide leadership and management of Panels by developing process; provide advice and direction as needed; approve final membership of Panels; establish policy and procedures for Secretariat and programs. Establishes term of office on Board is four years. Establishes Board operating procedures. Authorizes Board members to be compensated as provided in statute (ORS 292.495).

Establishes Secretariat as an administrative section within Institute for Natural Resources (INR) at Oregon State University (OSU). Establishes Secretariat consist of administrator and all personnel employed in Secretariat. Requires Secretariat develop and administer programs and administer funds available in Independent Scientific Review Fund (Fund). Requires Secretariat provide staff to Board as necessary. Requires that Secretariat: assist Board in identifying type of review necessary; serve as primary contact for members of public related to Board and Secretariat; supervise and assist in scope of work; maintain list of experts available to participate in review panels. Allows Secretariat to: conduct hearing and conferences; enter into agreements with other public bodies; enter in to agreements with federal government, and associations or private persons; obtain assistance or data from any state agency; preform other acts necessary. Requires Governor, after consultation with Board, to appoint Administrator of Secretariat and set compensation of administrator. Requires administrator be head of Secretariat. Authorizes administrator to hire necessary staff.

Establishes Fund. Appropriates moneys to Higher Education Coordinating Commission to be distributed to OSU. Establishes Fund consists of all moneys appropriated or received as gifts, grants, or contributions.

Fiscal: May have fiscal impact, no statement yet issued

Revenue: May have revenue impact, no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2015, the Oregon Legislative Assembly enacted Senate Bill 202 establishing the Task Force on Independent Scientific Review for Natural Resources. The Task Force evaluated and assess the need for independent science

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review in Oregon and made recommendations to the Governor and appropriate legislative committees. The final Task Force Report was submitted to the legislature in September 2016 and can be found here:

http://inr.oregonstate.edu/sites/inr.oregonstate.edu/files/sb202_final_report.pdf. In 2017, Senate Bill 198 was introduced. This Bill would have created the Oregon Independent Science Review Board, but was not enacted.

House Bill 3327 would create the Independent Science Review Board, establish the Independent Scientific Review Secretariat as administrative section within the Institute for Natural Resources at Oregon State University, and establish the Independent Scientific Review Fund.