FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Prepared by:	Kim To
Reviewed by:	John Terpening, Gregory Jolivette
Date:	May 13, 2019

Measure Description:

Directs Oregon Department of Agriculture to adopt rules establishing practices that a grower of a genetically engineered crop may take to reduce the risk that genetic material from the genetically engineered crop will unintentionally be transferred to other agricultural crops.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), Oregon Judicial Department (OJD)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Quantifiable costs related to the measure may require budgetary action. In addition, the fiscal impact of the measure contains elements that are indeterminate, at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2019-21 Biennium	2021-23 Biennium
Oregon Department of Agriculture - General Fund		
Services and Supplies	85,000	
Total General Fund	\$85,000	\$0

Analysis:

HB 2882 with the -5 amendment requires the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to adopt rules establishing practices that a grower of a genetically engineered crop may take to reduce the risk that genetic material from the genetically engineered crop will unintentionally be transferred to other agricultural crops.

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)

ODA estimates the cost of conducting public hearings throughout the state to collect stakeholder feedback for the rulemaking process to be \$85,000 General Fund.

In addition, costs associated with court proceedings as a result of this bill is indeterminate, at this time. The bill authorizes a court to consider grower compliance or noncompliance with any applicable practices described in ODA adopted rules when determining whether the activities of the grower unreasonably created a foreseeable risk that genetic material from the genetically engineered crop would contaminate other agricultural crops, in the event that an action brought against a grower alleges damages due to contamination of an agricultural crop by a genetically engineered crop. Because the number of these court cases that may require ODA to testify cannot be quantified at this time, the potential costs associated with these court proceedings are not included in this fiscal analysis.

Oregon Judicial Department (OJD)

The fiscal impact of this bill on OJD is anticipated to be minimal. OJD expects to assist ODA in developing rules with existing staff and resources.