

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 2444

Relating to agricultural education

HB 2444 directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and the Oregon FFS Association to coordinate to increase student achievement and improve graduation rates, college preparation, and career placement for students enrolled in secondary agricultural courses. The bill also appropriates \$1.43 million General Fund to be expended for the Oregon FFA Association for a variety of activities including:

- assist in enrolling each student registered in grades 9 through 12 school agricultural education program for a minimum of one course per school year of an approved agriculture, science and technology program of study as a member of the National FFA Organization,
- provide support for leadership development and training,
- coordinate at least 24 state-level competitive events, and
- provide general and financial activities of the FFA programs.

Another \$600,000 General Fund is appropriated for grants to school districts for extending duty contracts allowing personnel to manage approved agricultural sciences and technology programs during summer months between school years.

The Education Subcommittee recommends HB 2444 be reported out do pass.