

SB 844 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 04/08/19

Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Gelser, Heard, Thomsen, Wagner

Exc: 1 - Hass

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/3, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$3 million to Oregon State University (OSU) to develop, implement, and operate a website to provide information relating to chemical and nonchemical solutions for plant pest problems. Declares emergency, effective on July 1, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- OSU's statewide extension services
- Pest control for plants
- Pesticide run-off in urban areas
- Value-neutral information on pesticides
- Ability to provide season-specific information on a website
- Timing issues related to applying pesticides
- Protecting beneficial predators
- Lack of easy-to-understand information on pesticides and pest control
- Natural pest solutions

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

OSU is a public research university with two campuses, 11 colleges, 14 experiment stations, 36 extension offices, and over 200 academic programs. OSU's Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Extension Program provides research-based knowledge in a wide variety of topics, including integrated pest-management strategies. Senate Bill 844 provides \$3 million to OSU to develop, implement, and operate a website to inform the public about chemical and nonchemical plant pest solutions.