

# Senate Bill 260

Sponsored by Senator ROBLAN, Representatives GOMBERG, SMITH DB; Senators BURDICK, DEMBROW, FREDERICK, GOLDEN, MANNING JR, MONNES ANDERSON, RILEY, TAYLOR, WAGNER, Representatives MCKEOWN, WITT (Presession filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish program for strategic investments in initiatives related to ocean acidification and hypoxia.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for purposes of program.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to ocean chemistry; creating new provisions; amending ORS 196.571; and declaring an  
3 emergency.

4 Whereas Oregon is an epicenter for the global manifestation of ocean acidification and hypoxia;  
5 and

6 Whereas the natural seasonal process of upwelling transports corrosive waters into the  
7 nearshore and estuaries, causing marine waters within this state's jurisdiction to be especially vul-  
8 nerable to ocean acidification; and

9 Whereas ocean acidification, hypoxia and changes in ocean temperature are intensifying; and

10 Whereas Oregon has rich and vibrant wild marine fisheries, including shellfish fisheries; and

11 Whereas ocean acidification and hypoxia are known to cause mortality and reduced growth and  
12 productivity in marine organisms, including in species that form the foundation of the marine food  
13 web; and

14 Whereas negative impacts from ocean acidification, hypoxia or both have already been observed  
15 in species that are commercially, culturally and economically important to this state, including  
16 oysters, mussels and crabs; and

17 Whereas Oregon's coastal communities and economies are important to this state and are de-  
18 pendent on a thriving marine ecosystem; and

19 Whereas Oregon has academic institutions with world-class expertise in ocean issues, including  
20 ocean acidification and hypoxia; and

21 Whereas Oregon has played a leading role in fostering collaborative ocean acidification and  
22 hypoxia monitoring, research and action; and

23 Whereas the partnerships between the shellfish industry and university scientists in this state  
24 are an example to the nation for building innovative solutions to address ocean acidification and  
25 hypoxia; and

26 Whereas the Ocean Policy Advisory Council has identified ocean acidification as a priority issue  
27 for Oregon; and

28 Whereas the Oregon Ocean Science Trust has identified ocean acidification as a priority issue  
29 for research and monitoring funding; and

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       Whereas the Oregon Shellfish Task Force established under section 5, chapter 814, Oregon Laws  
2 2015, and the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia, through collab-  
3 oration with Oregon stakeholders, have made recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on  
4 strategic actions to address ocean acidification and hypoxia; now, therefore,

5 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

6       **SECTION 1.** ORS 196.571 is amended to read:

7       196.571. (1) The Legislative Assembly finds and declares that:

8       (a) Ocean acidification and hypoxia severely endanger the state's commercially and culturally  
9 significant ocean resources; **and**

10       **(b) Strategic investments are necessary to address the risks and vulnerabilities caused**  
11 **by ocean acidification and hypoxia that threaten the state's economy and ecosystems.**

12       (2) The Legislative Assembly therefore declares it to be the policy of the state to ensure a co-  
13 ordinated, effective response to ocean acidification and hypoxia. To facilitate efforts that are coor-  
14 dinated and effective, it is the state's policy to support ocean acidification and hypoxia actions and  
15 initiatives that are developed through close collaborations between federal, state and local agencies,  
16 academic institutions and commercial industries, among others.

17       **SECTION 2.** The State Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the Oregon  
18 Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia, shall by rule establish and imple-  
19 ment an ocean acidification and hypoxia strategic investment program. The department  
20 shall expend moneys under the program, in the form of grants or allocations, on strategic  
21 investments identified by the coordinating council in the following:

22       (1) **Monitoring of key oceanographic and biological indicators of impacts from ocean**  
23 **acidification and hypoxia;**

24       (2) **Projects or programs that promote coastal economic and ecosystem resilience to**  
25 **ocean acidification and hypoxia; and**

26       (3) **Public information tools and strategies to increase awareness of ocean acidification**  
27 **and hypoxia science, impacts and solutions for Oregon.**

28       **SECTION 3.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-  
29 ated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019,  
30 out of the General Fund, the amount of \$1,900,000, which may be expended by the department  
31 in the form of grants or allocations under the program established under section 2 of this  
32 2019 Act.

33       **SECTION 4.** This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
34 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect  
35 July 1, 2019.

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