

SB 337 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

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Meeting Dates: 3/29, 3/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Department of Forestry to study and make recommendations regarding the efficacy of current forest policies to an interim committee of Legislative Assembly. Sunsets January 2, 2023. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Replaces the measure. Requires the Board of Forestry to make appointments to each Forest Practice Committee (Committee) such that at least five members must be private landowners, private timber owners, or authorized representatives of these private owners who regularly engage in operations; at least one member must be employed by, or serve of the board of; a nonprofit organization that promotes conservation and addresses forestry issues; and at least one member who serves on the board of an Oregon forest collaborative, if the Committee's region has a forest collaborative. Allows conservation education or experience to fulfill education or experience eligibility requirement for Committee membership.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

BACKGROUND:

Each of Oregon's three forest regions contains a Forest Practice Committee (Committee) that consists of nine members, a majority of whom have to reside in the region. Members must have natural resource management education or experience, and at least six members of the Committee must be private landowners, private timber owners, or authorized representatives of these private owners who regularly engage in operations. Committees are appointed by the Board of Forestry (Board) for three-year terms, and the State Forester designates Oregon Department of Forestry staff to serve as each Committee's secretary. The Committees advise the Board on current forestry issues and forest management approaches, including the review of forest practice rules.

SB 337 would require the Oregon Department of Forestry to study and make recommendations regarding the efficacy of current forest policies to an interim committee of Legislative Assembly.