## HB 3103 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

**House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water**

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| **Prepared By:** | Anna Glueder, LPRO Analyst |
| **Sub-Referral To:** | Joint Committee On Ways and Means |
| **Meeting Dates:** | 3/9 |

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

**Directs the Oregon State University Extension** Service (extension service) and Oregon State University **Agricultural Experiment Station** (experiment station) to establish a **voluntary, nonregulatory, and incentive-based agricultural water management technical assistance program**. Requires the assistance program to **include staffing** at least one agricultural water management specialist at each experiment station or field research center to build collaborative relationships with water and land managers and to develop research-based water management programs; **connect agricultural producers** to relevant support and other incentives to improve on-farm water management practices; create a **voluntary network of agricultural producers** to develop water-related on-farm demonstration projects to promote the update of effective projects and practices and assess their effects; **promote innovative agricultural water management practices** via workshops and tours; maintain and support **a system of publicly available weather and climate data** as well as tools to increase agricultural yields and efficient management of water resources; provide publicly accessible **satellite-based evapotranspiration data** as collected by a contracted organization and use it to support evapotranspiration data production, verify other evapotranspiration estimates, provide more reliably accurate and Oregon-specific estimates, conduct outreach, and partner with agricultural producers to increase the accuracy of evapotranspiration estimates and evaluate their uses; partner with agricultural producers and other subject matter experts t**o verify remote sensing data accuracy and develop new tools and best management practices**; and **develop and update Oregon-specific resources** with a focus on effective practices will increase the likelihood of securing federal funding for agricultural water management. **Authorizes the extension service and the experiment station** to support the acquisition and maintenance of **necessary equipment, technology, and services** related to data relevant to agricultural water use and management. Authorizes the extension service and the experiment station to **form partnerships with agricultural producers** and certain institutions for the purpose of data collection and processing, convene statewide or region-specific **advisory groups or working groups** to advise on any aspect of the program, and receive and expend funds to support a voluntary network of agricultural producers and quantifiable drought resiliency programs. **Requires the extension service and the experiment station** to jointly track and **annually report** on climate-related impacts on agricultural producers to agriculture-related interim committees of the legislature by September 15 of each year. Requires the extension service and the experiment station to jointly **report on the progress of the technical assistance program** to agriculture-related interim committees of the legislature by September 15 of each even-numbered year. Requires the **Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)** and the **Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)** to jointly develop and update, or contract with a qualified entity to develop and update, **agricultural field boundary and crop type maps**, support efforts by others to develop and maintain relevant datasets, **identify and pursue federal funding opportunities** related to agricultural water management, and to, where practicable, **coordinate these efforts with Oregon State University.**

*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:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Increased air temperatures and changing precipitation patterns have potential consequences for Oregon's water resources. Much of the state's precipitation is predicted to arrive as rain instead of snow by 2089, which will alter the distribution of water availability throughout the year and increase drought conditions in the summer and fall. These changes will affect agricultural producers in Oregon.

House Bill 3103 would direct Oregon State University Extension Service and Oregon State University Agricultural Experiment station to establish agricultural water management technical assistance program and the Oregon Department of Agriculture and Oregon Water Resource Department to jointly perform various tasks related to agricultural water management technical assistance.