

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: HB 2610**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Directs Oregon State University to research reduced-risk pest management tools for Oregon's specialty crops and report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2027.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Agriculture, Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission		
General Fund		
Special Payments	\$1,000,000	\$184,412
Total General Fund	\$1,000,000	\$184,412
Total Fiscal Impact	\$1,000,000	\$184,412
<i>Total Positions</i>	0	0
<i>Total FTE</i>	0.00	0.00

Analysis:

HB 2610 directs Oregon State University (OSU), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Interregional Research Project Number 4, to research and identify reduced-risk pest management tools that are effective against major economic pests of importance to Oregon's specialty crop industries. OSU is to consult with agricultural stakeholders to design trials that address priority crops and pests. OSU is to report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to agriculture no later than September 15, 2027 on this research. The measure appropriates \$1 million General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Committee (HECC) for distribution to OSU; and declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

OSU anticipates that in the 2023-25 biennium, this funding would primarily be used to pay for five positions (3.95 FTE) to work on the research project. This includes a program leader (0.25 FTE) to oversee the program and outreach; two faculty research assistants (each 0.90 FTE) to design and execute the study, and process samples; and a biotechnician (0.90 FTE) and an undergraduate student worker (1.00 FTE) to process samples and provide site maintenance. Positions are not included in the table above as positions within universities are not subject to legislative authorization.

In total, OSU would use \$591,345 for position costs. An estimated \$339,154 would be spent for research supplies, which includes growth chambers for insect rearing and trials, sprayers, a ground boom, tractor, equipment storage, and sampling supplies. The remaining funds would be used for travel, overhead, publication, and other miscellaneous costs related to completion of the study. In the 2025-27 biennium, OSU anticipates additional costs of \$184,412 for completion of this work and reporting.

There is no fiscal impact for the Oregon Department of Agriculture.