

HB 3098 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

Action Date: 03/14/23

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 8-0-1-0

Yeas: 8 - Boice, Gamba, Hartman, Helm, Levy B, Marsh, McLain, Owens

Exc: 1 - Scharf

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/2, 3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) in consultation with the Pesticide Analytical and Response Center (PARC) to establish an outreach program for distribution of educational materials related to safe pesticide use to farmworkers, and coordination among public bodies to improve the effectiveness of farmworker pesticide incident reporting, tracking, and responses. Specifies the modalities of the outreach program and that culturally sensitive outreach must be conducted in languages commonly spoken among the Oregon farmworker population. Requires ODA and PARC to coordinate and consult with persons representing farmworkers, pesticide users, and institutions of higher education to develop program focus areas and culturally sensitive materials. Appropriates \$1 million General Fund moneys to ODA for implementation. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Predominate languages used by Oregon farm worker community
- Consultation and collaboration with farm worker community in developing the outreach program
- Possible requirement of rulemaking to involve farm worker involvement

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Specifies that culturally sensitive outreach must be conducted in languages commonly spoken among the Oregon farmworker population. Requires the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Pesticide Analytical and Response Center to coordinate and consult with persons representing farmworkers, pesticide users, and institutions of higher education to develop program focus areas and culturally sensitive materials.

BACKGROUND:

The Pesticide Analytical and Response Center (PARC) was created in 1978 and performs multiple functions in regard to pesticide-related incidents in Oregon. Its main function is to coordinate investigations to collect and analyze information about reported incidents. PARC does not have regulatory authority; rather, the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) regulates pesticides for the state. Certain individuals and businesses must be licensed by ODA prior to performing certain pesticide-related activities.

House Bill 3098 A requires ODA in consultation with the PARC to establish an outreach program for distribution of educational materials related to safe pesticide use to farmworkers, and coordination among public bodies to improve the effectiveness of farmworker pesticide incident reporting, tracking, and responses.