

House Bill 3142

Sponsored by Representatives HELM, RESCHKE, OWENS

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**.

Directs Oregon Department of Administrative Services to provide grants to counties and soil and water conservation districts for removal of western juniper. Appropriates moneys for grants. Requires department to provide grants within 60 days of effective date of Act.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to western juniper; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "local workforce development board" and**
5 **"workforce program" have the meanings given those terms in ORS 660.300.**

6 **(2) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall provide grants to soil and**
7 **water conservation districts organized under ORS 568.210 to 568.808 and 568.900 to 568.933 and**
8 **counties for the removal of western juniper to minimize the negative impacts of western**
9 **juniper on water resources and ecological health.**

10 **(3) Grant recipients shall use grant funds only to:**

11 **(a) Remove western juniper in areas where removal will provide the greatest benefit to**
12 **water resources and ecological health, as determined by the grant recipient;**

13 **(b) Remove western juniper at times, and using methods, that will reduce the risk of**
14 **repropagation after removal; and**

15 **(c) Cover the administrative expenses of the grant recipient related to the grant pro-**
16 **gram, except that no more than eight percent of grant funds may be used to cover admin-**
17 **istrative expenses.**

18 **(4) Grant applicants may consult with Oregon State University, local governments, as**
19 **defined in ORS 174.116, conservation organizations or other organizations or experts to**
20 **identify areas that meet the criteria described in subsection (3)(a) of this section.**

21 **(5) A grant recipient shall:**

22 **(a) Work with Oregon State University to track and monitor the effects of the program**
23 **on water resources, ecological health and economic and workforce development and to pro-**
24 **vide quarterly and annual reports to the department; and**

25 **(b) Work with a local workforce development board to establish a workforce program**
26 **that provides services to individuals performing western juniper removal work or to allow**
27 **individuals performing western juniper removal work to participate in an existing workforce**
28 **program.**

29 **(6) The department shall prepare an annual report based on the reports received by the**
30 **department under subsection (5)(a) of this section. The department shall submit the report**

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 in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation,
2 to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to water no later than Sep-
3 tember 15 of each year.

4 **SECTION 2.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
5 ated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the biennium beginning July
6 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the following amounts which may be expended for the
7 purposes of providing grants under section 1 of this 2023 Act, as follows:

8 (1) \$1,750,000 for providing a grant to a soil and water conservation district located in
9 Crook County.

10 (2) \$1,250,000 for providing a grant to a soil and water conservation district located in
11 Jefferson County.

12 (3) \$1,000,000 for providing a grant to a soil and water conservation district located in
13 Klamath County.

14 (4) \$500,000 for providing a grant to a soil and water conservation district located in
15 Deschutes County.

16 (5) \$2,500,000 for providing a grant to soil and water conservation district located in
17 Harney County.

18 (6) \$1,000,000 for providing a grant to a soil and water conservation district located in
19 Lake County.

20 (7) \$1,000,000 for providing a grant to Wheeler County.

21 **SECTION 3.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
22 ated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1,
23 2023, out of the General Fund, \$800,000 for distribution to Oregon State University for the
24 purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 1 of this 2023 Act.

25 **SECTION 4.** The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall provide the grants
26 described in section 2 of this 2023 Act no later than July 1, 2023, or 60 days after the effective
27 date of this 2023 Act, whichever is later.

28 **SECTION 5.** This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
29 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect
30 on its passage.

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