

A-Engrossed House Bill 4049

Ordered by the House February 16
Including House Amendments dated February 16

Sponsored by Representative HELM, Senator SOLLMAN, Representative OWENS (Presession filed.)

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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: This Act directs OSU to study PFAS in biosolids that are spread on farm fields that do not produce crops for human food. The Act directs OSU to submit a final report by Sept. 1, 2027. (Flesch Readability Score: 64.0).

[Digest: This Act directs OSU to study the fate of PFAS in biosolids that are spread on farm fields. The Act directs OSU to submit a report by Dec. 15, 2025. (Flesch Readability Score: 64.7).]

Directs the Oregon State University Extension Service and the College of Agricultural Sciences of Oregon State University to study the *[fate and transport]* **distribution and occurrence** of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) found in biosolids applied to agricultural fields **that do not produce crops intended for human consumption**. Directs the extension service and college to submit *[findings]* **a final report** to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to agriculture not later than *[December 15, 2025]* **September 1, 2027**.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to a study of PFAS in biosolids applied to land; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon State University Extension Service and the College of Agri-**
5 **cultural Sciences of Oregon State University shall conduct a statewide study to better un-**
6 **derstand the occurrence and distribution of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances**
7 **(PFAS) found in biosolids applied to agricultural fields that do not produce crops intended for**
8 **human consumption.**

9 **(2) In conducting the study under this section, the extension service and the college shall**
10 **collaborate with the Department of Environmental Quality and Oregon wastewater service**
11 **providers to:**

12 **(a) Identify and quantify PFAS concentrations in selected biosolids from wastewater**
13 **treatment facilities in this state;**

14 **(b) Identify and quantify PFAS concentrations in the soil profiles of selected agricultural**
15 **fields that do not produce crops intended for human consumption, on which biosolids ana-**
16 **lyzed in paragraph (a) of this subsection have been applied to land as a soil amendment, and**
17 **in adjacent agricultural fields without a history of biosolid application;**

18 **(c) Utilizing the data collected under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, determine**
19 **the quantities of PFAS retained within and leached from soil profiles; and**

20 **(d) Identify and quantify PFAS concentrations in crops grown in agricultural fields that**
21 **do not produce crops intended for human consumption analyzed under paragraph (b) of this**
22 **subsection.**

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 **(3) Participation in the study by wastewater treatment service providers, farmers, land**
2 **owners or land managers is voluntary.**

3 **(4) To the greatest extent possible, the extension service and college shall use data col-**
4 **lection methods that do not disclose the precise location of agricultural fields or wastewater**
5 **treatment facilities or the identity of owners of agricultural fields or wastewater treatment**
6 **facilities that are the subjects of the study. In the reports submitted under subsection (5)**
7 **of this section, the extension service and college shall present summarized information or**
8 **aggregated data that does not directly identify the location of agricultural fields or**
9 **wastewater treatment facilities or the identity of owners of agricultural fields or wastewater**
10 **treatment facilities.**

11 **(5) The extension service and college shall submit to the interim committees of the Leg-**
12 **islative Assembly related to agriculture, in the manner provided by ORS 192.245:**

13 **(a) A progress report on the study conducted under this section, no later than December**
14 **15, 2025; and**

15 **(b) A final report on the study conducted under this section, no later than September 1,**
16 **2027. The final report shall include, but need not be limited to:**

17 **(A) PFAS concentrations in biosolids;**

18 **(B) PFAS concentrations in background and biosolid-amended soil horizons;**

19 **(C) PFAS concentrations in crops grown on biosolid-amended soils; and**

20 **(D) Comparisons to published literature for context and interpretation.**

21 **SECTION 2. 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 ending June 30,**
23 **2025, out of the General Fund, \$740,000 for distribution to Oregon State University to carry**
24 **out the study under section 1 of this 2024 Act.**

25 **SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2024 Act is repealed on January 2, 2028.**

26 **SECTION 4. This 2024 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
27 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2024 Act takes effect**
28 **on its passage.**

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