

HB 3486 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

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Meeting Dates: 3/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires at least one member of the Research Vessel Council to be a trained scientist from the University of Oregon with at least five years of marine research experience. It appropriates \$306,000 from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to be used for 30 days of research per year on two research vessels operated by the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology and \$110,000 from the General Fund to HECC to be expended for the purchase of a dive vessel and for the construction of a dock for a dive vessel and a dive platform. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on July 1, 2025.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oceangoing Research Vessel Program (program) was established at Oregon State University through the passage of House Bill 3451 during the 2013 legislative session with the intention to assist in the research and study of the waters of the Pacific Coast. Proposals submitted to the program are evaluated by the Research Vessel Council whose required membership includes members from certain state agencies, at least one member with expertise in marine operations or marine education and at least one member who is a trained scientist at least five years of marine research experience. The Oregon Institute of Marine Biology is housed at the University of Oregon.