

## HB 3219 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Higher Education and Workforce Development

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**Prepared By:** Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/20, 3/13

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates an unspecified amount of money from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for distribution to the Oregon Hazards Lab at the University of Oregon.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

Revenue impact: Revenue impact issued.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Other university centers funded by legislative appropriations
- Local and regional impacts of early warning systems
- Intended use of proposed appropriation
- Estimated \$8 million appropriation request

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment replaces the unspecified appropriation with \$8.1 million.

#### BACKGROUND:

The [Oregon Hazards Lab](#) is a research lab in the University of Oregon's Department of Earth Sciences. The lab's projects include seismic monitoring, wildfire detection, smart sensors, and communications infrastructure. Its stated mission is to develop early warning systems for natural disasters such as earthquakes and wildfires, as well as to collect environmental data for scientific research.

In 2022, the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$4.5 million to expand the Oregon Hazards Lab (OHAZ) Wildfire Camera Network, according to the [budget note for House Bill 5205 \(2022\)](#).