

HB 3487 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

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Meeting Dates: 3/5, 3/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure authorizes counties receiving funds from the Oregon Department of Agriculture, allocated under a previous appropriation, to use those funds for expenses associated with administering grasshopper suppression efforts. The measure declares an emergency and is effective on its passage.

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:

-1 The amendment specifies that counties may use **up to eight percent** of the relevant received funds for expenses associated with administering grasshopper suppression efforts.

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

BACKGROUND:

While grasshoppers are native to Oregon, in the summer of 2021 Oregon experienced economically damaging infestation levels of grasshoppers and Mormon Crickets that affected ~10 million acres of rangeland in 18 counties. According to the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), grasshopper outbreaks often follow or coincide with drought years when conditions favoring grasshopper development align with low numbers of predators. Suppression efforts typically involve aerial applications of the growth insecticide diflubenzuron, applied once per season. During the second special session of 2021, Senate Bill 5561 allocated \$5 million to the ODA for grasshopper and cricket suppression, with \$3.8 million designated for a cost-sharing program to assist private landowners with treatment expenses. In 2024, the Legislature allocated an additional \$1.25 million for continued suppression efforts.