HB 2063 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Prepared By:	Erin Pischke, LPRO Analyst
Sub-Referral To:	Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Meeting Dates:	3/18, 3/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure establishes the 11-member Agrivoltaics Task Force staffed by the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development; requires the Task Force to submit a report no later than December 15, 2026; and sunsets Task Force and reporting requirements on December 31, 2026.

Detailed summary:

Establishes the Agrivoltaics Task Force (Task Force), composed of at least 11 members who are appointed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (one member), Oregon Department of Energy (one member), and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, DLCD (at least nine members). Requires the Task Force to study and report on various topics and provide recommendations. Establishes guidelines and duties for the Task Force. Requires the Task Force to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly related to land use no later than December 15, 2026. Requires DLCD to provide staff support for the administration of the Task Force and directs other state agencies to assist in completing duties, as necessary. Sunsets Task Force and reporting requirements on December 31, 2026. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Ensuring productivity of farmland is not threatened by agrivoltaic projects
- Agrivoltaic system design characteristics
- Challenges of interconnecting agrivoltaic projects to the electric grid
- Topics for task force to consider
- Options for siting solar energy facilities on different types of farmland

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment adds "existing barriers, if any, to connecting an agrivoltaics system to the electrical grid" to the topics the Task Force will study.

- *FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement issued yet*
- *REVENUE: No revenue impact*

BACKGROUND:

According to the US Department of Energy, agrivoltaics is the co-location of agricultural or livestock production alongside or underneath solar panels. It is also known as agrisolar, dual-use solar, or low-impact solar. According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), there are seven agrivoltaic installation sites across approximately 140 acres in Oregon out of 589 agrivoltaic installation sites located on approximately 60,000 acres across the United States.