



Legislative Fiscal Office
83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
2025 Regular Session

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Reviewed by: April McDonald, Kim To
Date: June 2, 2025

Bill Title: Relating to a study of PFAS in biosolids applied to land; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Environmental Quality, Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Higher Education Coordinating Commission	\$ 410,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 410,000	-	-
Department of Environmental Quality	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 390,000	\$ -	\$ 390,000	-	-
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 410,000	\$ -	\$ 390,000	\$ -	\$ 800,000	-	-

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Higher Education Coordinating Commission	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
Department of Environmental Quality	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-

Measure Description

The measure directs Oregon State University (OSU) to conduct a statewide study on the presence and distribution of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in biosolids applied to agricultural fields that do not produce crops intended for human consumption. The study will assess PFAS concentrations in biosolids, soil, and crops, evaluate PFAS retention and leaching within soil profiles, and compare findings to published research. OSU must collaborate with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and wastewater service providers to conduct the study.

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) shall provide \$410,000 General Fund for the 2025-27 biennium to OSU to conduct the study. OSU must submit a progress report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly and a final report.

Fiscal Analysis

The total estimated fiscal impact is \$800,000 total funds in the 2025-27 biennium.

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

The measure appropriates \$410,000 General Fund for the 2025-27 biennium, as one-time funding, to HECC for distribution to OSU to conduct a statewide study on PFAS in biosolids. OSU's Extension Service and College of Agricultural Sciences will collaborate with DEQ and wastewater service providers to assess PFAS concentrations,

retention, and leaching in soil and crops. Historically, OSU has conducted similar environmental research with funding from grants, contracts, and state allocations. This appropriation provides dedicated funding for sampling, analysis, and reporting, ensuring completion of the study, with a progress report due in 2026 and a final report in 2028.

Department of Environmental Quality

DEQ has secured \$225,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Columbia River grant and will support the total study cost via a pass-through transfer of grant funds to OSU. In addition, the Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA) has committed to contributing \$165,000 to OSU for the study. This funding reduces the state's financial obligation, with the remaining \$410,000 provided from the General Fund. DEQ's involvement will be limited to collaboration and oversight, with a minimal fiscal impact that is expected to be absorbable within existing resources.

Relevant Dates

OSU is required to submit a progress report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to agriculture by December 15, 2026, and a final report by September 1, 2028.

The study requirement is repealed on January 2, 2029.

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.