

HB 2166 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

Action Date: 02/03/25

Action: Do pass. Refer to Ways and Means.

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Boice, Hartman, Helm, Levy B, Marsh, McDonald, McLain, Owens, Scharf

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 1/22, 2/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to submit a report on the economic competitiveness of Oregon’s agricultural sector to an agriculture-related interim committee of the Legislative Assembly by December 31, 2026.

Detailed Summary

Directs ODA to conduct or contract an analysis of the economic competitiveness of Oregon’s agricultural sector.

Requires analysis to include

- competitiveness of Oregon’s agricultural products within the U.S. domestic market
- the potential of improving competitiveness and sustainability through technological advancements
- the potential of implementing climate-smart agricultural practices regarding long-term competitiveness and environmental stewardship
- agricultural infrastructure needs
- impacts on Oregon’s agricultural sector from changes in the global market and supply chains after 2020, and foreign investments in Oregon agricultural land
- recommendations aimed at ensuring the competitiveness of Oregon’s agriculture

Directs ODA to seek and consider input from stakeholders representing Oregon’s agricultural sector, including

- Indian tribes
- various types and sizes of agricultural operations
- farmworkers
- experts

Requires all agencies to assist ODA as requested. Requires ODA to submit a report to an agriculture-related interim committee of the Legislative Assembly by December 31, 2026. Sunsets the reporting requirement January 2, 2027. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon’s agricultural sector is an approximately \$45 billion industry, and approximately 14 percent of Oregonians, located in all counties, rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. It is estimated that over 250 diverse agricultural products are grown in the state. The COVID-19 global pandemic as well as recent wildfire events affected

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farmworker populations and the agricultural sector as a whole, but the extent of their effects are not fully quantified.