

SB 768 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 03/05/25

Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Frederick, Gelser Blouin, Robinson, Sollman

Exc: 1 - Weber

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/5, 3/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires Oregon to match 50 percent of every private donation of \$10,000 or more made to the Oregon State University Foundation (OSUF) to support agricultural research on cereal grains, to the extent moneys are available. The measure establishes reporting requirements for OSUF and appropriates \$3 million from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for allocation to OSUF.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Consistent funding for agricultural research
- Impacts of climate change on the agriculture industry
- Research efforts into agriculture climate mitigation

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State University Foundation (OSUF) is a nonprofit organization that manages the fundraising activities of the university. University foundations conduct alumni outreach, collect donations, manage endowments, and distribute institutional scholarships, among other activities. OSUF currently has an endowment valued at over \$800 million.

Oregon State University is Oregon's sole land-grant university. According to the [Congressional Research Service](#), land-grant universities developed to educate the next generation of farmers, ranchers, and citizens. These institutions form the backbone of a national network of agricultural extension and experiment stations.