

HB 2408 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

Action Date: 03/24/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

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: 3/10, 3/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates a total of \$23.5 million from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to be allocated to Oregon State University (OSU) for the agricultural experiment station and its branch stations, the OSU Extension Service, and the Forest Research Laboratory. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on its passage.

Detailed Summary

Appropriates a total of \$23.5 million General Fund moneys to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to be allocated to Oregon State University (OSU) for distribution to the following entities and purposes:

- \$12.3 million for the agricultural experiment station and branch stations
- \$9.4 million for the OSU Extension Service
- \$1.8 million for the Forest Research Laboratory

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Relationship between the Act and other budget appropriations
- Contribution of the hazelnut industry to research funding
- Work of the Agricultural experiment station in various districts

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment increases the total appropriation amount to \$23.5 million and makes corresponding adjustments in the appropriation to each entity.

BACKGROUND:

The agricultural experiment station is housed in the College of Agricultural Sciences (CAS) at Oregon State University (OSU) and targets research programs critical to CAS, the western US, and Oregon as well as those that address certain challenge areas defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute for Food and Agriculture. The station is funded through state funds, research grants, federal and state contracts, private sources, and foundations.

The OSU Extension Service provides research, programs, partnerships, volunteer opportunities, and educational materials to local communities. The Forest Research Center was established by the Oregon Legislature in 1941 as an original research agency focused on forest ecosystems, forest management, and forest-derived renewable materials. It is supported by state and federal appropriations as well as research grants from public and private sources.