

A-Engrossed House Bill 2063

Ordered by the House April 1
Including House Amendments dated April 1

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment for Representative John Lively)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: This Act creates a task force to study and report on energy production on farm land. (Flesch Readability Score: 70.1).

Creates the Agrivoltaics Task Force staffed by the Department of Land Conservation and Development. Requires the task force to study agrivoltaics and to report to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to land use by December 15, 2026.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to agrivoltaics task force; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Agrivoltaics Task Force is established.

(2) The task force consists of at least 11 members, who shall be appointed no later than 45 days following the effective date of this 2025 Act, as follows:

(a) One member, appointed by the Director of Agriculture, to represent the State Department of Agriculture;

(b) One member, appointed by the Director of the State Department of Energy to represent the State Department of Energy; and

(c) At least nine members, appointed by the Director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development, with diverse geographic representation, as follows:

(A) One member representing the Association of Oregon Counties;

(B) One member representing a land use organization;

(C) One member representing large agricultural operations;

(D) One member representing small agricultural operations or family farms;

(E) One member representing the solar development industry;

(F) One member familiar with community solar development;

(G) One member with expertise in agrivoltaics technology and deployment;

(H) One member representing the environmental community;

(I) One member with expertise in land valuation; and

(J) At the discretion of the director, an even number of individuals with expertise, or who represent other interests, relevant to the purpose of the task force.

(3) The task force shall study and prepare a report on:

(a) The existing land use regulations around solar siting and agriculture and variations

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 across the state, if any;

2 (b) The benefits of agrivoltaics;

3 (c) The potential for agrivoltaics on smaller family farms or community solar projects;

4 (d) The impacts to the agricultural economy from agrivoltaics, particularly impacts to
5 properties or property values from solar siting or solar colocation;

6 (e) Recommendations on the size of feasible agrivoltaics projects or the proportion of
7 land that may be used for agrivoltaics;

8 (f) Mechanisms to ensure that farming remains the primary use of land used for
9 agrivoltaics;

10 (g) Solar development impacts on availability of land for farm use; and

11 (h) Existing barriers, if any, to connecting an agrivoltaics system to the electrical grid.

12 (4) The task force may study and report on additional topics relating to agrivoltaics.

13 (5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the
14 transaction of business.

15 (6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting
16 members of the task force.

17 (7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

18 (8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
19 ment to become immediately effective.

20 (9)(a) The task force shall meet no fewer than six times. The task force shall have its
21 first meeting on or before 90 days after the effective date of this 2025 Act.

22 (b) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
23 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

24 (10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

25 (11) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
26 may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative
27 Assembly related to land use no later than December 15, 2026.

28 (12) The Department of Land Conservation and Development shall provide staff support
29 to the task force or contract for the administration of the task force.

30 (13) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting
31 members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

32 (14) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
33 entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task
34 force.

35 (15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
36 the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted
37 by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
38 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

39 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on December 31, 2026.

40 **SECTION 3.** This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
41 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect
42 on its passage.