

Senate Bill 352

Sponsored by Senator SMITH DB (Pre-session filed.)

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 as **introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act tells an agency to create a grant program to eradicate gorse. The Act creates a fund for the grant program. The Act gives money for the grant program. (Flesch Readability Score: 86.7).

Directs the State Department of Agriculture to establish a grant program to facilitate the eradication of gorse for wildfire mitigation in southwest Oregon.

Establishes the Southwest Oregon Gorse Wildfire Risk Reduction Fund to support the grant program.

Appropriates moneys to the department for deposit into the fund.

Sunsetts the grant program and fund on January 2, 2030.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to a grant program that facilitates the eradication of gorse for wildfire mitigation in
3 southwest Oregon; and prescribing an effective date.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The State Department of Agriculture shall establish by rule a grant**
6 **program for the purpose of facilitating the eradication of gorse for wildfire mitigation in**
7 **southwest Oregon.**

8 **(2) In administering the program, the department:**

9 **(a) Shall develop criteria for receiving a grant and a process for applying for a grant; and**

10 **(b) May require a recipient of a grant to report to the department on the use of the grant**
11 **funds.**

12 **(3) The department shall review the grant program on a biennial basis to assess to what**
13 **extent the purpose described in subsection (1) of this section is being achieved. The depart-**
14 **ment shall modify the process for awarding grants as necessary to better achieve the pur-**
15 **pose described in subsection (1) of this section.**

16 **SECTION 2. (1) There is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the**
17 **General Fund, the Southwest Oregon Gorse Wildfire Risk Reduction Fund. Interest earned**
18 **by the Southwest Oregon Gorse Wildfire Risk Reduction Fund shall be credited to the fund.**
19 **All moneys in the Southwest Oregon Gorse Wildfire Risk Reduction Fund are continuously**
20 **appropriated to the State Department of Agriculture to carry out the purposes described in**
21 **section 1 of this 2025 Act.**

22 **(2) The Southwest Oregon Gorse Wildfire Risk Reduction Fund shall consist of all moneys**
23 **credited to the fund, including moneys appropriated or transferred to the fund by the Leg-**
24 **islative Assembly.**

25 **SECTION 3. There is appropriated to the State Department of Agriculture, for the**
26 **biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$1,000,000 for deposit**

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 into the Southwest Oregon Gorse Wildfire Risk Reduction Fund established in section 2 of
2 this 2025 Act.

3 **SECTION 4.** (1) Sections 1 and 2 of this 2025 Act are repealed on January 2, 2030.

4 (2) Any moneys remaining in the Southwest Oregon Gorse Wildfire Risk Reduction Fund
5 that are unexpended and unobligated on the date specified in subsection (1) of this section
6 shall revert to the General Fund.

7 **SECTION 5.** This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2025
8 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

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