FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2012 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Date:	2-23-2012

Measure Description:

Establishes, in Oregon University System Fund, subaccount dedicated to funding investments in forestry education.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon University System (OUS)

Summary of Expenditure Impact: See Analysis

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

The measure establishes a subaccount dedicated to funding investments in professional forestry education within the Oregon University System Fund. The subaccount shall consist of moneys made available by harvest taxes, appropriation, gift, grant or donation for the specific purpose of the fund. Oregon State University is directed to make allocations of moneys from the subaccount in accordance with criteria and measurements established by the Forestry Education Council in consultation with the Dean of the College of Forestry at Oregon State University.

The measure establishes the five-member Forestry Education Council appointed by the President of Oregon State University and outlines the type of criteria and measurements to be established. In accordance with Oregon statutes regulating state boards and commissions, council members are entitled to compensation and expenses and these expenses are paid through funds within the subaccount.

The fiscal impact is indeterminate. While identifying several potential sources of funds, the measure does not specify an amount of harvest tax or appropriation to be deposited into the subaccount or what entity makes that decision. Once funding is identified for the subaccount, Oregon University System assumes a minimal fiscal impact for the expenses of the Council.