

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means

Vote: 7 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Beyer, Gilliam, Krieger, Roblan, Schaufler, Wingard, Clem

Nays: 0

Exc.: VanOrman

Prepared By: Mary Gibson, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Places the Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC) within the State Department of Agriculture (ODA). Adds two seats to the OISC. Authorizes the Council to enter into contracts and adopt rules. Directs the ODA to act as the fiscal agent for the Council. Deletes requirement that appointment of a coordinator must be by written order filed with the Secretary of State.

Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The Department of Environmental Quality's desire to participate in the OISC
- The costs of preventing invasive species versus the cost of removing them
- The rationale for having the OISC in the Department of Agriculture's budget, which allows the ODA to act as fiscal agent for the OISC and allows the OISC to administer grants and enter into contracts

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Invasive Species Council was established by the 2001 legislature. The OISC's purpose is to increase public awareness of invasive species and facilitate cooperation and coordination of projects related to invasive species. Its membership is derived from both public and private sectors. Five agencies have permanent seats on the Council: Agriculture, Fish and Wildlife, OSU Sea Grant, PSU Center for Lakes and Reservoirs, and Forestry. The bill adds a sixth agency seat for Department of Environmental Quality. There are 8 at-large committee members and the bill adds a 9th.

The original statutory language is lacking as to the means by which the Council conducts its financial business within the purview of the State public finance law. The bill allows OISC to enter into contracts, accept and administer grants and adopt their own rules for Council business.