

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

House Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Communities

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Revenue
Vote:	5 - 1 - 2
Yeas:	Gilliam, Krieger, Roblan, Schaufler, Clem
Nays:	Wingard
Exc.:	Beyer, VanOrman
Prepared By:	Beth Patrino and Cheyenne Ross, Administrators
Meeting Dates:	4/21, 4/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: For acquisitions of forest lands made after the effective date of the Act, authorizes the Board of Forestry (Board) to hold and manage lands alone or in cooperation with other entities, including community forest organizations. Authorizes Board to acquire lands or partial interest in lands, including but not limited to conservation easements. Authorizes Board to sell lands or partial interest in lands, to other parties if the Board determines that other parties are better situated to manage lands for long term. Creates Forest Development Revenue Bond Fund. Renames existing fund established in ORS 530.280 the State Forest General Obligation Fund. Authorizes use of fund in following order: first, for deposit to State Forestry General Obligation Fund to pay bond-related costs for outstanding bonds and second, subject to the approval of State Treasurer, to State Forestry Department account for distribution to counties as provided in ORS 530.115(1). Authorizes State Treasurer to issue lottery bonds in _____ amount. Authorizes use of lottery bond proceeds for purchases in Gilchrist area of Klamath County. Establishes State Forest Acquisition Fund for purpose of acquiring parcel in the Gilchrist area. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need to update acquisition authority, bonding authority and mechanics of bonding payback process
- Productive, working forests versus “museum” forests
- Forest fragmentation
- Sustainability

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Corrects and clarifies bonding mechanisms.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 2216A brings the Board of Forestry’s land acquisition statutes up-to-date.