2009 Regular Legislative Session
FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION
Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office

MEASURE NUMBER: SB 942 **STATUS:** A Engrossed
SUBJECT: Creates and implements the Oregon Climate Corps
GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Department of Higher Education
PREPARED BY: Dawn Farr
REVIEWED BY: Paul Siebert
DATE: April 27, 2009

	2009-2011	2011-2013
EXPENDITURES:		
See Comments.		

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2009.

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.

COMMENTS: The bill directs the University of Oregon to create and implement the Oregon Climate Corps consisting of a trained corps of volunteers; directs that the program be modeled after other successful public service programs; specifies types of projects under the program; directs the University of Oregon to develop a long-term plan to fund the Oregon Climate Corps program; and, establishes the Oregon Climate Change Fund which continuously appropriates money to the University of Oregon to implement the Oregon Climate Corps.

The Department of Higher Education (DHED) indicates that development and implementation of the Oregon Climate Corps will be accomplished within existing Other Funds or Federal Funds. The University of Oregon Institute for a Sustainable Environment Climate Masters program has already begun to develop curriculum that is expected to be used across the state with the Oregon State Extensions office running this program. The Climate Masters program is designed to be similar to a Master Gardener's program.

At this time work underway is being funded by private grants and donations, and DHED indicates that future work to implement the program would be dependent upon receiving additional grants, donations or Federal Funds. DHED estimates that funding for full implementation could be as high as $1.5 million annually.