

# Senate Bill 942

Sponsored by Senator VERGER; Senators BURDICK, CARTER, MORRISSETTE, PROZANSKI, Representatives BARNHART, OLSON, J SMITH (at the request of Teddy Keizer)

## 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**.

Requires Department of Environmental Quality to create and implement Oregon Climate Corps to place individuals throughout Oregon to work on efforts to address climate change. Specifies types of projects to be included in program. Requires individuals participating in program to pay fee to cover costs of training and placement.

Establishes Oregon Climate Corps Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to department to implement program.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to the Oregon Climate Corps; and appropriating money.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Environmental Quality shall create and implement**  
5 **the Oregon Climate Corps to place individuals throughout Oregon's urban and rural com-**  
6 **munities to provide volunteer service and act as catalysts in furthering the efforts of public**  
7 **bodies as defined in ORS 174.109, the private sector and non-governmental organizations in**  
8 **addressing the challenges Oregon faces from climate change.**

9 **(2) In developing and implementing the Oregon Climate Corps, the department shall**  
10 **model the program on other successful public service programs, including but not limited to**  
11 **AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps VISTA.**

12 **(3) Individuals participating in the program shall work on projects meant to address cli-**  
13 **mate change challenges, including but not limited to:**

14 **(a) Energy efficiency projects, such as home weatherization and the installation of solar**  
15 **energy panels;**

16 **(b) Carbon sequestration projects such as local community tree-planting initiatives;**

17 **(c) Environmental education projects in local communities, private businesses and**  
18 **schools; and**

19 **(d) Projects with private businesses to help the businesses achieve a zero carbon**  
20 **footprint.**

21 **(4)(a) To cover the costs of training and placement in the Oregon Climate Corps, a pro-**  
22 **gram participant shall pay a fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the department, to be deposited in the Oregon**  
23 **Climate Corps Fund established in section 2 of this 2009 Act.**

24 **(b) The department may accept grants, donations, contributions or gifts, from any**  
25 **source, for expenditures for any purpose consistent with the purposes of this section, to be**  
26 **deposited in the Oregon Climate Corps Fund established in section 2 of this 2009 Act.**

27 **SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Climate Corps Fund is established in the State Treasury,**  
28 **separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Oregon Climate Corps**

**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 **Fund shall be credited to the fund. Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the**  
2 **Department of Environmental Quality for the purposes specified in section 1 of this 2009 Act.**

3 **(2) The Oregon Climate Corps Fund consists of:**

4 **(a) Fees specified in section 1 of this 2009 Act that the department receives from partic-**  
5 **ipants in the program;**

6 **(b) Any grants, donations, contributions or gifts received by the department pursuant to**  
7 **section 1 of this 2009 Act; and**

8 **(c) Any funds appropriated by the Legislative Assembly.**  
9

---