

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Beyer, Gilliam, Krieger, Nolan, Roblan, VanOrman, Wingard, Clem
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Beth Herzog, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/4, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes that if person concludes that more detailed information than that contained in Internet soil survey would assist county in making better determination of whether land qualifies as agriculture land they must request Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) arrange for capability assessment. Requires professional soil classifier performing assessment be chosen by landowner, certified by and in good standing with Soil Science Society of America. Establishes that soils assessment is not public record unless person requesting it utilizes it in land use proceeding. Stipulates that if person decides to utilize assessment they must inform DLCD and consent to release all assessments produced. Requires DLCD to review assessment, not disclose assessment prior to utilization without written consent, and release assessment to local government conducting land use proceeding. Requires DLCD to charge and collect fee from person requesting assessment in an amount intended to meet costs of obtaining assessment and administering program. Establishes Soil Assessment Fund. Stipulates that soil assessment process does not affect process by which county determines whether or not land qualifies as agriculture land. Establishes that soil assessment process created by Act becomes operative on October 1, 2011. Authorizes DLCD to adopt rules prior to operative date. Declares an emergency; effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Process for non-landowner to request soil assessment
- Qualifications for soil classifier

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: In 1999 the Department of Land Conservation and Development was required by ORS 215.209 to develop a computerized database of county-wide maps that show the diversity of Oregon's rural lands. The database includes information on soil classifications.