

House Bill 3451

Sponsored by Representative GOMBERG, Senator KRUSE, Representative BOONE; Representatives BAILEY, KRIEGER, MCKEOWN, Senators JOHNSON, ROBLAN, WHITSETT

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**.

Establishes Oceangoing Research Vessel Program to conduct certain marine research.

Establishes Research Vessel Council and specifies criteria for council's evaluation of proposals submitted for use of vessels under program.

Requires report to Legislative Assembly on program status and federal funding commitments.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon University System for operation of program.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to an Oceangoing Research Vessel Program; appropriating money; and declaring an emer-
3 gency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oceangoing Research Vessel Program is established at Oregon State**
6 **University in order to assist in the research and study of the waters of the Pacific Coast.**

7 **Potential areas of research include, but are not limited to:**

8 (a) **Mapping the seabed in Oregon's territorial sea, as defined in ORS 196.405;**

9 (b) **Analyzing marine ecosystems, including but not limited to existing marine protected**
10 **areas and proposed marine protected areas;**

11 (c) **Analyzing the potential effects of climate change, including but not limited to ocean**
12 **acidification;**

13 (d) **Compiling comprehensive assessments of overall ocean health;**

14 (e) **Understanding ocean dynamics, including but not limited to natural hazards such as**
15 **tsunamis; and**

16 (f) **Installing instruments to effectively monitor the impact of wave energy systems and**
17 **marine protected areas on marine ecosystems and fish populations.**

18 (2) **The Oceangoing Research Vessel Program shall solicit from state agencies and from**
19 **students and faculty within the Oregon University System proposals for the use of a research**
20 **vessel operated under the program.**

21 (3) **In order to effectively allocate the use of research vessels operated under the**
22 **Oceangoing Research Vessel Program, there is established a Research Vessel Council, con-**
23 **sisting of seven members appointed by the President of Oregon State University. The presi-**
24 **dent shall appoint to the council:**

25 (a) **At least one member who is a trained scientist with at least five years of marine re-**
26 **search experience;**

27 (b) **Upon request from the agency, at least one member from each of the following**
28 **agencies:**

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 (A) State Department of Fish and Wildlife;

2 (B) State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries;

3 (C) Department of Land Conservation and Development; and

4 (D) Department of Environmental Quality; and

5 (e) At least one member who has expertise in marine operations or marine education.

6 (4) The Research Vessel Council shall evaluate proposals submitted under subsection (2)
7 of this section on the basis of the:

8 (a) Proposal's geographical area of study;

9 (b) Quality of the submitted management, research or educational rationale; and

10 (c) Feasibility of accommodating the proposed work within the schedule of federally
11 funded projects for the research vessel.

12 (5) The Research Vessel Council shall schedule the use of a research vessel for selected
13 proposals as part of the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System ship sched-
14 uling process.

15 **SECTION 2.** Not later than November 30, 2015, Oregon State University shall submit a
16 report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education. The re-
17 port shall include, but is not limited to:

18 (1) A summary of the scholarly findings and research conducted under the Oceangoing
19 Research Vessel Program;

20 (2) A summary of additional research needed; and

21 (3) An analysis of federal funding provided and committed to the program and a deter-
22 mination as to whether the amount of federal funds is sufficient for the program to continue.

23 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated to the Oregon University System, for the biennium
24 beginning July 1, 2013, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$330,000 for distribution to
25 Oregon State University for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of sections 1 and 2
26 of this 2013 Act.

27 **SECTION 4.** This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
28 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect
29 July 1, 2013.

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