

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Requires Environmental Quality Commission to impose fee on disposal sites that receive domestic solid waste. Sets amount of fee at \$4.40 per ton. Requires commission to annually adjust fee based on change in Consumer Price Index. Requires moneys collected pursuant to fee to be deposited in Outdoor Education Account.

Establishes grant program for outdoor school programs to be administered by Oregon State University Extension Service.

Establishes Outdoor Education Account for purposes of funding grant program.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to funding outdoor education; and providing for revenue raising
3 that requires approval by a three-fifths majority.

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

5 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2015 Act is added to and made a part**
6 **of ORS 459.005 to 459.437.**

7 **SECTION 2. (1) In addition to the fees provided for in ORS 459.235**
8 **and 459.236, on January 1 of each year the Environmental Quality**
9 **Commission shall impose a fee on all disposal sites that receive do-**
10 **mestic solid waste. The fee shall be in an amount equal to \$4.40 per**
11 **ton received at the site.**

12 **(2) Beginning January 1, 2017, the commission shall annually adjust**
13 **the fee amount established in subsection (1) of this section by a pro-**
14 **portional amount equal to the percentage change in the 12-month pe-**
15 **riod prior to the beginning of the prior year in the monthly averaged**
16 **U.S. City Average Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (All**

1 Items) as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United
2 States Department of Labor.

3 (3)(a) A local government unit that franchises or licenses a domes-
4 tic solid waste site shall allow the disposal site to pass through the
5 amount of the fees established by the commission under this section
6 to the users of the site.

7 (b) If a disposal site that receives domestic solid waste passes
8 through all or a portion of the fees established by the commission
9 under this section to a solid waste collector who uses the site, a local
10 government unit that franchises or licenses the collection of solid
11 waste shall allow the franchisee or licensee to include the amount of
12 the fee in the collection service rate.

13 (4) Moneys received by the commission under this section shall be
14 paid into the State Treasury and deposited in the Outdoor Education
15 Account established in section 5 of this 2015 Act.

16 SECTION 3. Sections 4 and 5 of this 2015 Act are added to and made
17 a part of ORS chapter 327.

18 SECTION 4. (1) The Oregon State University Extension Service
19 shall administer a grant program for outdoor school programs as
20 provided by this section.

21 (2) Grants shall be awarded for outdoor school programs that:

22 (a) Provide a six-day, residential, hands-on educational experience
23 featuring field study opportunities for students learning about:

24 (A) Soil, water, plants and animals;

25 (B) The role of timber, agriculture and other natural resources in
26 the economy of this state;

27 (C) The interrelationship of nature, natural resources, economic
28 development and career opportunities in this state; and

29 (D) The importance of preserving this state's environment and na-
30 tural resources.

31 (b) Are integrated with local school curricula in a manner that as-

1 **sists students in meeting state standards related to science, technol-**
2 **ogy, engineering and mathematics, and international standards related**
3 **to science.**

4 **(c) Provide students with opportunities to develop leadership, crit-**
5 **ical thinking and decision-making skills.**

6 **(d) Address the inequity of outdoor educational opportunities for**
7 **underserved children in this state.**

8 **(3) Grants shall be awarded from the Outdoor Education Account**
9 **established under section 5 of this 2015 Act and shall be awarded to a**
10 **school district or to an education service district.**

11 **(4) Priority for grants shall be given to outdoor school programs**
12 **that promote:**

13 **(a) Higher scores on standardized measures of academic achieve-**
14 **ment in reading, writing, math, science and social studies.**

15 **(b) Greater self-sufficiency and leadership skills.**

16 **(c) Fewer discipline and classroom management problems.**

17 **(d) Increased student engagement and pride in accomplishments.**

18 **(e) Greater proficiency in solving problems and thinking strate-**
19 **gically.**

20 **(f) Better application of systems thinking and increased ability to**
21 **think creatively.**

22 **(g) Improved communication skills and enhanced ability to work in**
23 **group settings.**

24 **(h) Greater enthusiasm for language arts, math, science and social**
25 **studies.**

26 **(i) Increased knowledge and understanding of science content,**
27 **concepts and processes.**

28 **(j) Better ability to apply science and civic processes to real-world**
29 **situations.**

30 **(k) Improved understanding of mathematical concepts and mastery**
31 **of math skills.**

1 (L) Improved language arts skills.

2 (m) Better comprehension of social studies content.

3 (n) Accessibility to students of all abilities and learning styles.

4 (5)(a) The Director of the Oregon State University Extension Ser-
5 vice shall convene an advisory committee for the purpose of adminis-
6 tering the grant program established under this section. When
7 selecting the members of the committee, the director shall take into
8 consideration geographic and demographic diversity and shall ensure
9 that the committee has representatives of the environmental commu-
10 nity, the natural resources community and fifth-grade or sixth-grade
11 education.

12 (b) The advisory committee shall recommend to the director:

13 (A) Standards for outdoor school programs; and

14 (B) Distributions of moneys for outdoor school programs.

15 (6) The director shall submit an annual report to:

16 (a) The Department of Education, related to the ability of outdoor
17 school programs to assist students in meeting state standards related
18 to science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and interna-
19 tional standards related to science; and

20 (b) The interim legislative committees on education, related to
21 grant programs.

22 SECTION 5. (1) The Outdoor Education Account is established in
23 the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. In-
24 terest earned by the Outdoor Education Account shall be credited to
25 the account.

26 (2) Moneys in the Outdoor Education Account are continuously
27 appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for
28 use by the Oregon State University Extension Service to award grants
29 for outdoor school programs under section 4 of this 2015 Act.