

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 657

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Appropriates moneys to Higher Education Coordinating Commission for 2015 biennium for agricultural experiment station and branch station, Oregon State University Extension Service and Forest Research Laboratory programs of Oregon State University.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2015-17 Biennium	2017-19 Biennium
General Fund	\$16,000,000	
Total Funds	\$16,000,000	\$0

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.

Analysis:

This bill appropriates \$16 million General Fund (GF) to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for use by Oregon State University and the bill states that the funds may be expended in the amount of \$7 million for the agricultural experiment station and branch stations, \$5 million for the Extension Service, and \$4 million for the Forest Research Laboratory. These three programs rely on funding from federal, state, local government, and industry support; the funds appropriated in this bill may be used as part of matching funds requirements for some federal funding dollars for these programs.

Examples of what these funds may be used for include the following:

- Work with private and public landowners to create practical approaches to eradicate invasive weeds, manage for at-risk species like marbled murrelet and sage-grouse, and support agricultural production statewide.
- To develop strategies to increase water availability and to address water quality concerns.
- Addressing food issues ranging from breeding new crops and developing food safety practices, to teaching family nutrition and promoting community health.
- Provide information and outreach to grow resource based, globally competitive industries in Oregon's rural communities by supporting private sector development and investment in new technologies that drive value-added agricultural and forestry products.
- Support for statewide research and Extension facilities, as well as support for Oregon Open Campus which encourages lifelong learning through educational partnerships across Oregon.