

**PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY****CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

**REVENUE: No revenue impact****FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Beth Reiley, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 3/18

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires establishment of Oregon Academy of Sciences (Academy) as nonprofit corporation to serve as principal source of scientific investigation, examination and reporting on scientific questions referred to Academy by Governor, Governor's designee or Legislative Assembly. Requires certain provisions in Academy articles of incorporation and bylaws.

Establishes nine member Oregon Academy of Sciences Organizing Task Force (Task Force) with members jointly appointed by presidents of University of Oregon (U of O) and Oregon State University (OSU). Requires Task Force to investigate and develop organizational structure of Academy. Requires Task Force to file articles of incorporation for academy by January 1, 2017. Requires Task Force to report to legislature no later than September 15, 2016. Requires U of O and OSU to provide staff support to Task Force. Appropriates \$\_\_\_ to U of O for purposes of carrying out duties of Task Force. Sunsets Task Force on January 2, 2019.

Abolishes Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team on January 1, 2017. Declares emergency, effective on passage

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** (Proposed -1 Amendment) Removes references to Oregon Academy of Sciences. Clarifies Institute for Natural Resources (Institute) is established at Oregon State University (OSU) and OSU is authorized to administer Institute with other public universities. Establishes nine member Task Force on Independent Scientific Review for Natural Resources (Task Force) with members appointed by Governor in consultation with vice presidents of research, or their designees from OSU, University of Oregon and Portland State University. Requires Task Force to develop recommendations on role of Institute in convening panels of scientists to conduct independent scientific review for broad range of natural resource issues. Requires Task Force to report to legislature no later than September 15, 2016. Sunsets Task Force January 2, 2019.

**BACKGROUND:** The Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST) was established by the Legislature in 1997 (Senate Bill 924). The IMST is a scientific review panel charged with advising the State of Oregon on matters of science related to the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. These matters include fish recovery, water quality improvements, and enhancing watershed health.

Senate Bill 202 abolishes the IMST and creates the Oregon Academy of Sciences (Academy) as a nonprofit corporation to serve as the principal source of scientific investigation, examination and reporting on scientific questions referred to the Academy by the Governor, the Governor's designee or the Legislative Assembly.

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***This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.***