

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Education

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: Joint Committee on Ways and Means****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Gretchen Engbring, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 3/10, 3/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Higher Education Coordinating Commission to be expended for agricultural experiment and branch stations, Extension Service, and Forest Research Laboratory programs of Oregon State University.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Benefits to the agricultural industry resulting from research
- 4-H program benefits to youth
- Impact of research stations on rural economies
- Environmental benefits resulting from research
- Nesting and habitat research for marbled murrelets

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 657 appropriates \$16,000,000 to the Higher Education Coordinate Commission out of the General Fund for Oregon State University (OSU) programs including the agricultural experiment station and branch stations, OSU Extension Service, and Forest Research Laboratory (FRL).

Based in the College of Agricultural Sciences at OSU, the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station and eleven branch stations conduct research in the agricultural, biological, social, and environmental sciences across the state of Oregon. Part of the Division of University Outreach and Engagement at OSU, the Extension Service's mission is to convey research-based knowledge in a way that is useful for people to improve their lives, homes, and communities. The final program that Senate Bill 657 addresses is the FRL, based in the OSU College of Forestry and established by the Oregon Legislature in 1941 (ORS 536.225). The FRL is supported by state and federal appropriations, as well as research grants from public and private sources.