

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

REVENUE: No revenue impact (-5)**FISCAL: Fiscal Statement Issued (-5)****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: Ways and Means****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Beth Reiley, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 3/18, 4/20

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 -5 Amendment) Establishes Task Force on Independent Scientific Review for Natural Resources (Task Force) consisting of up to 15 members appointed by Governor from specified sectors and universities. Requires Task Force to assess need for independent scientific review in Oregon and make recommendations, including which entities are best suited to conduct or coordinate scientific review. Requires Task Force to make certain considerations to ensure entity will provide scientific review that is independent. Requires Task Force to make recommendations regarding structure and process to be used by entity in making scientific review.

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.

4/20/2015 2:30:00 PM *

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

Committee Services Form – 2015 Regular Session