

HB 5037

Department of State Lands

HB 5037 is the budget bill for the Department of State Lands. The Department provides administrative support to the State Land Board, which is responsible for management of the Common School Fund assets. The Department of State Lands generates revenue for the Common School Fund by managing state owned land, and is responsible by statute for programs such as removal/fill and wetlands. It also manages the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee approved a budget of \$47,969,544 and 107.00 Full Time Equivalent positions. Within this budget, Other Funds expenditure limitation is \$36.1 million and Federal Funds expenditure limitation is \$1.6 million. In total, the budget is \$2.7 million higher than the 2013-15 legislatively approved budget level.

The budget includes capacity for continued forensics on the Portland Harbor Superfund site, resources for public outreach efforts for the Elliott State Forest, limitation for 2014 fire season expense, a position to address Common School Fund internal financial controls, limitation to convert grazing land to agricultural production, and a position reclassification at South Slough to increase focus on educational efforts.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends HB 5037 be amended by the -2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.