

**HB 2984**

**Relating to forest product cooperatives**

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HB 2984 requires Clackamas County to establish the Clackamas Forestry Product Cooperative Project as a pilot program for forestry products grown on non-forest land. The bill allows for cities within the county to participate in the project and creates a regulatory system intended to grant immunity, from federal and state antitrust laws, to parties of the project. The intent of the bill is to displace competition through a regulatory system for the commercial production and marketing of forestry products on non-forest land under this program.

The measure requires the State Forester to actively supervise and establish procedures and guidelines for the negotiations between the parties and to review the prices set by those negotiations. Additionally, the State Forester is required to set prices for forestry products bought and sold as part of the project and may take action to resolve disputes between parties.

The bill establishes a one-time \$400,000 General Fund appropriation to the Oregon Department of Forestry for the purpose of issuing one or more grants to Clackamas County for studying matters regarding, and making preparations for the project.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends HB 2984 be amended by the -A9 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.