

**HB 3549**

**Relating to pesticide control**

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HB 3549 requires the Oregon Department of Agriculture to establish qualifications for obtaining and maintaining an aerial pesticide applicator certificate, requires the Pesticide Analytical Response Center to develop standards for response to pesticide related complaints, requires a biennial report to the Legislative Assembly, and increases the maximum the Department may establish as a pesticide registration fee. In addition, the bill requires the Department to operate a telephone line to receive and coordinate responses to pesticide related complaints by the public and report to the Legislative Assembly biennially.

The bill establishes a 60-foot unsprayed strip along inhabited dwellings or schools for aerial herbicide applications on forestland. The buffer requirement would take effect starting January 1, 2016 and would be included as part of the Forest Practices Act. The bill also appropriates \$255,000 Other Funds to the Department to maintain the hotline and for rulemaking activities.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends HB 3549 be amended by the -A7 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.