

**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources**

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 04/07/15

**Action:** Do Pass And Be Referred To Ways And Means By Prior Reference

**Meeting Dates:** 03/19, 04/07

**Vote:**

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Esquivel, Frederick, Gorsek, Krieger, McKeown, McLain, Whitsett, Witt

**Prepared By:** Chuck Gallagher, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Higher Education Coordinating Commission for Oregon State University Extension Service for purposes of developing and making available to public best management practices for improving pollinator health. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Chemical interactions and pollinator health
- Current available information regarding pollinator health
- Economic importance of insect pollinated agriculture

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Oregon's insect-pollinated agricultural economy generates approximately \$600 million per year. Pollinator populations have suffered significant losses over recent years due to complex interactions among multiple stressors, including pests, pathogens, and viruses, poor nutrition, pesticide exposure, bee management practices, and a lack of genetic diversity.

Section 1, Chapter 40 of Oregon Laws 2014 requires Oregon State University, in consultation with the State Department of Agriculture, to develop educational materials regarding best practices for avoiding adverse effects from pesticides on populations of bees and other pollinating insects. House Bill 3361 would appropriate funds to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for Oregon State University Extension Service to develop best management practices for improving pollinator health and make them available to the public.