

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

MEASURE: HB 3382
CARRIER: Rep. Esquivel

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/14/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 04/07, 04/14

Vote:

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

Prepared By: Chuck Gallagher, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines Willamette Valley Protected District (District). Extends sunset prohibiting general growing of canola in District from January 2, 2019 to July 1, 2019. Directs College of Agricultural Sciences (College) at Oregon State University to use field monitoring and research of canola to identify acreages on which canola can be grown within District. Allows State Department of Agriculture (Department) to authorize up to 500 acres of commercial growing of canola within District on acreage identified by College and in manner College has determined to be compatible with growing other crops. Allows Department to assess civil penalty up to \$25,000 against person who grows canola without authorization.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Study findings to date
- Limiting extended canola planting to same 500 acres
- Strategies to avoid cross pollination
- Investments in seed oil processing and end uses
- Value of seeing study completed as originally designed

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Canola is an oilseed crop from plants in the mustard family (*Brassicaceae*). Common types of brassica used for food include cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussel sprouts and radish. The term canola is widely used to refer to rapeseed; canola is a variety of rapeseed bred for human and livestock consumption as well as biodiesel production.

In 2013, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 2427 A directing the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University to conduct a peer-reviewed study on canola and report results to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly by November 1, 2016. The measure also prohibited the growing of canola in the Willamette Valley until 2018 except to extent necessary to conduct the study if the legislature provided funding for the study.

House Bill 3382 amends that law, extending the sunset prohibiting the growing of canola in most of the Willamette Valley. The measure also allows the State Department of Agriculture to authorize up to 500 acres for the commercial production of canola in the District on acreage identified by the College of Agricultural Sciences and in a manner compatible with other crops.