

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

**Measure: SB 439 - A**

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session  
Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed  
Versions are Considered Official*

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Date: 4/3/2015

**Measure Description:**

Establishes Outdoor Education Account for purpose of providing outdoor school programs.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Department of Education, School Districts, Higher Education Coordinating Commission

**Summary of Expenditure Impact:**

	<b>2015-17 Biennium</b>	<b>2017-19 Biennium</b>
General Fund	\$44,000,000	
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$44,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Local Government Mandate:**

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

**Analysis:**

The bill directs the Oregon State University Extension Service (OSU ES) to assist school districts and education service districts by providing outdoor school programs through the administration and maintenance of a grant program. The Extension Service is also directed to develop and review curriculum for the outdoor schools, as specified by the bill, and to provide staff training. The bill establishes the Outdoor Education Account and appropriates \$44 million General Fund for the 2015-17 biennium to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to fund the costs associated with the grant program. The Director of the Oregon State University Extension Service is to convene an advisory committee for the purpose of administering the grant program as well as to submit a report to the Department of Education, related to the ability of outdoor school programs to assist students in meeting certain standards specified in the bill.

The fiscal impact to OSU ES is estimated to be \$871,000 per year with an additional \$871,000 in the first year for program start-up costs to assist school districts and education service districts in providing a six day residential outdoor school program to all 5th or 6th graders in Oregon. This represents approximately 5 new FTE to be hired by OSU ES for grant administration, providing program leadership and program maintenance. First year start-up activities to be undertaken by OSU ES include curriculum review and development; web and mobile lesson design, learning module and material development, implementation, best practice development, and training . On-going program activities to be undertaken by OSU ES include program management and administration, advisory committee management, grant contract and agreement administration, procurement, reporting, and compliance.

Other program costs include round trip bus transportation - including special needs children, teacher duty stipend for 6 days, 5 nights, tuition, food, and additional program oversight from the Multnomah Education Service District. These costs are estimated at \$39 million GF per biennium.

Calculations are based on an estimated annual participation rate of 48,392 public and private students.