

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 952

Ordered by the Senate April 22
Including Senate Amendments dated April 22

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Establishes Task Force on Funding State Natural Resources Agencies to identify options for providing state natural resources agencies with stable [*or increased*] **and sustainable** funding. Directs task force to report to Governor or committee of Legislative Assembly related to natural resources not later than February 1, 2016.

Sunsets task force December 31, 2016.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Task Force on Funding State Natural Resources Agencies; and declaring an emer-
3 gency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Funding State Natural Resources Agencies is estab-**
6 **lished, consisting of not fewer than nine or more than 15 members appointed as follows:**

7 (a) **The President of the Senate shall appoint two nonvoting members from among the**
8 **members of the Senate. The two members appointed under this paragraph may not be from**
9 **the same political party.**

10 (b) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two nonvoting members**
11 **from among the members of the House of Representatives. The two members appointed un-**
12 **der this paragraph may not be from the same political party.**

13 (c) **The Governor shall appoint not fewer than five or more than 11 members. In making**
14 **appointments to the task force, the Governor shall endeavor, to the extent the Governor**
15 **deems practicable, to appoint members representative of interests of forest and agricultural**
16 **landowners, the environmental conservation community, local government, Indian tribes,**
17 **industry, the recreation business community, hunting and fishing interests and the general**
18 **public.**

19 (2) **The task force shall identify funding options that would provide stable and sustainable**
20 **funding necessary for the proper functioning of state natural resources agencies. As part of**
21 **the option identification process, the task force shall consider:**

22 (a) **The role of General Fund moneys in supporting the management of the environment**
23 **and the natural resources of this state for the benefit of all Oregonians;**

24 (b) **The role of fees and charges in supporting the management of the environment and**
25 **the natural resources of this state;**

26 (c) **The past, current and projected future distribution of funding between different re-**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 venue categories;

2 (d) The means of reducing the funding required for state natural resources agencies, in-
3 cluding:

4 (A) Shared services;

5 (B) Improved efficiencies;

6 (C) Clarification of priorities; and

7 (D) Elimination of responsibilities that are no longer needed;

8 (e) Options for ensuring that revenues are used for their intended purposes;

9 (f) The practicability of proposed options, including but not limited to the logistics of
10 implementation and administration; and

11 (g) The equity of proposed options, including but not limited to equity among:

12 (A) Rural and urban areas;

13 (B) Particular communities; and

14 (C) Consumptive and conservation interests.

15 (3) The task force may accept comments and exhibits from public and private sources.

16 (4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the
17 transaction of business.

18 (5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting
19 members of the task force.

20 (6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

21 (7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
22 ment to become immediately effective.

23 (8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the Governor or a repre-
24 sentative of the Governor.

25 (9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

26 (10) The task force shall submit a report describing the identified funding options in the
27 manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the
28 Governor or an interim or regular committee of the Legislative Assembly related to natural
29 resources no later than February 1, 2016.

30 (11) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall provide staff support to the
31 task force.

32 (12) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
33 entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other
34 expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and
35 amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions
36 of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the Oregon Department of Ad-
37 ministrative Services for purposes of the task force.

38 (13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
39 the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating
40 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force
41 consider necessary to perform their duties.

42 (14) For purposes of this section, "state natural resources agencies" means the State
43 Department of Agriculture, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Columbia River
44 Gorge Commission, the Department of Environmental Quality, the State Forestry Depart-
45 ment, the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, the State Parks and Recre-

1 **ation Department, the Department of Land Conservation and Development, the Department**
2 **of State Lands, the State Marine Board, the Water Resources Department and the Oregon**
3 **Watershed Enhancement Board.**

4 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2015 Act is repealed on December 31, 2016.**

5 **SECTION 3. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
6 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect**
7 **on its passage.**

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