

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3433

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

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

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Measure Description:

Requires certain state agencies and Oregon State University to conduct studies on opportunities for greenhouse gas sequestration and emissions reductions from activities related to natural and working lands and in Oregon's forest products, agricultural and building materials industries, transportation sector and electricity sector.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Public Universities, Department of State Lands (DSL), Department of Forestry (ODF), Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Geology and Minerals, Public Utility Commission, Department of Transportation

Analysis:

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. The legislation directs the Department of Forestry (ODF) and the Department of State Lands to create agreements for shared stewardship of national forests between the State of Oregon and the US Forest Service, with the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions related to wildfire. ODF must also work with the US Forest Service to conduct a study on forest carbon flux associated the wildfire on national forestland in this state; the study and a report on the study must be submitted to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020.

No later than September 15, 2020, Oregon State University is directed to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly on three studies: (1) on the carbon sequestration potential of the state’s orchards, vining and perennial crops, rangeland, and agricultural crops; (2) on innovations and strategies available to increase greenhouse gas sequestration or decrease greenhouse gas emissions within steel and cross-laminated timber industries; (3) on the utilization of air curtain destructors for reducing emissions from the fuel reduction of slash, wood, and other burnable waste materials and for producing and utilizing biochar as a marketable commodity.

In consultation with the Department of Transportation, the Public Utility Commission, TriMet, electric companies, and any other interested parties; the Department of Energy is directed to conduct a study and develop recommendations on the electricity grid modernization, capacity and infrastructure changes necessary to provide urban areas with access to electric vehicle charging stations. The agency must conduct a second study on the potential role for small modular nuclear reactor power plants in reducing greenhouse gas emissions related to the generation of electric power. Reports on both studies must be submitted to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020.

The legislation revises requirements of the Department of Environmental Quality related to the review and reporting of the clean fuels program and permits two reports of the reviews which are due to the legislative assembly no later than September 15, 2020; and the second no later than February 1, 2022.

The measure is anticipated to have a fiscal impact on the state agencies and Oregon State University conducting studies as directed by the legislation. A more complete fiscal analysis on the measure will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.