

HB 2980 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Land Use

Action Date: 04/02/19

Action: Do pass. Refer to Ways and Means.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Boshart Davis, Clem, Helm, McLain, Post, Smith DB, Williams

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/26, 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Extends the pesticide use reporting system (PURS) sunset date from June 30, 2019 to June 30, 2029. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current pesticide regulation in Oregon
- De-funding of PURS during the 2009 recession
- Importance of data on the location and quantity of specific pesticide product applications
- Relationship between reported pesticide usage data and the state's ability to track, monitor, and regulate pesticide usage

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The 1999 Legislative Assembly directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to develop a pesticide use reporting system (PURS) to collect, organize, and report information on all categories of pesticide use in Oregon. PURS included two components: an online reporting system for non-household pesticide applicators, and a household pesticide use survey. The online system was implemented for the first time in 2002, but funding was withdrawn the same year. The system lapsed until 2005, when the legislature approved funding and collected full-year reports for 2006, 2007, and 2008. In 2009, the legislature withdrew funding for PURS again, but extended the system sunset date to June 30, 2019. PURS has not been operational since 2009.

House Bill 2980 would extend the sunset date for the pesticide use reporting system from June 30, 2019 to June 30, 2029.