

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3025

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

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

Prepared by: Krista Dauenhauer
Reviewed by: Matt Stayner, Ken Rocco
Date: 4/4/2019

Measure Description:

Requires State Forestry Department to establish Western Oregon Regional Carbon Sink as geographical area and take certain actions regarding area on or before January 1, 2031.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Forestry (ODF), Counties, Department of State Lands (DSL), Legislative Assembly, Office of the Governor, statewide

Analysis:

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the House Committee on Natural Resources to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

The legislation directs the Department of Forestry (ODF) to geographically define the Western Oregon Regional Carbon Sink and to require planting of 1 billion shrubs or trees in that region. The bill also establishes a task force on the Western Oregon Regional Carbon Sink consisting of a total of 11 members, including a member of the Senate, a member of the House, and 5 persons appointed by the Governor. No later than September 15, 2020, the task force must submit a report, of unspecified content, which may include recommendations for legislation. ODF must provide staff support to the task force, and members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses. All agencies of state government are directed to assist the task force in the performance of its duties.

The bill specifies that non-legislative members of the task force serve as volunteers and are not entitled to compensation and reimbursement. However, two members of the task force will be legislative members who are entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. The estimated per diem and travel reimbursement cost for the two legislative members is \$421 per day. This amount includes the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax, and assumes per diem remains at \$149 per day, and the average mileage of 90 miles at the current rate of \$0.58 per mile. Although the 2019-21 Legislative Assembly budget contains funds allocated for interim committee and task force, if the work required by this task force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2019-21 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required. The task force would not incur additional costs to the Legislative Assembly budget if the meetings are held at the Capitol building during Legislative Session, Task force, or Legislative Days.

A more complete fiscal analysis related to the ODF workload and staffing impacts will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Further Analysis Required