

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Measure: HB 3090 - A

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

Prepared by: Krista Dauenhauer
Reviewed by: John Terpening
Date: 4/11/2019

Measure Description:

Establishes beginning farmer and rancher incentive program in State Department of Agriculture.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

The legislation establishes the beginning farmer and rancher incentive program within the Department of Agriculture (ODA) for the purpose of providing loans, stipends, and scholarships to assist beginning farmers and ranchers in this state. The Beginning Farmer and Rancher Incentive Fund is established for the purpose of funding the program through public or private contributions. ODA may enter into contracts for the administration of the program. Scholarship distribution decisions must be completed by September 1 for the preceding academic year and individual scholarships are capped at the highest resident tuition rate at a publicly funded farming or ranching training program in this state. ODA must adopt a variety of rules, including penalties for individuals who fail to comply with terms and conditions of participation in the program.

With no amount of funding for this program identified, all the ramifications of this measure cannot be fully predicted and therefore the fiscal impact cannot be determined. The bill will have a fiscal impact associated with funding the loans, stipends, and scholarships as well as agency personnel or contract costs associated with the administration of the program. The split, if any, of funds between loans, stipends and scholarships will determine the sustainability of the Fund. Program rules, which have yet to be determined, such as eligibility requirements and loan terms such as interest rate and repayment schedules will also factor into the cost estimates for the program.