

Legislative Fiscal Office

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, H-178
Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1828

Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Officer
Paul Siebert, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer



Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Sen. Betsy Johnson, Senate Co-Chair
Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Senate Co-Chair
Rep. Dan Rayfield, House Co-Chair

Sen. Fred Girod, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Rep. David Gomberg, House Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

To: Natural Resources Subcommittee

From: Haylee Morse-Miller, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: February 27, 2020

Subject: HB 4168 – Relating to forestry
Work Session Recommendations

HB 4168 requires the Governor to hold mediation sessions between representatives of the forest industry and environmental interests, in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding announced by the Governor on February 10, 2020. The goal of these mediation sessions is to evaluate and recommend changes to the Oregon Forest Practices Act laws to advance attainment of federal regulatory assurances for aquatic and riparian-dependent species. The estimated costs of these mediation sessions are \$175,000 General Fund in 2019-21 and \$75,000 General Fund in 2021-23.

The second portion of this measure relates to notifications for pesticide applications on forestland. The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) is required to provide notifications to persons registered in ODF's Forest Activity Electronic Reporting and Notification System (FERNS) if there will be an application of pesticides by helicopter on forestland near a person's residence or water intake. The measure also sets limits on pesticide application by helicopter near inhabited dwellings, schools, and certain waterbodies.

The total cost of implementing this measure for ODF is estimated at \$894,317 General Fund and \$103,545 Other Funds in 2019-21. Most of the General Fund costs (\$739,000) are related to updates to FERNS, which will enable the system to support the pesticide application notification requirements of this measure. Remaining costs are related to two new positions (each 0.63 FTE in 2019-21) which include a limited duration full-time Project Manager 3 to oversee updates to FERNS; and a permanent full-time Operations and Policy Analyst 2 to administer the pesticide application program requirements.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the - A6 amendment.

MOTION: I move adoption of the - A6 amendment to HB 4168. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 4168, as amended by the -A6 amendment, to be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move HB 4168, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____