Senate Bill 1554

Sponsored by Senator ROBLAN, Representatives MITCHELL, SMITH DB; Senators BEYER, DEMBROW, FREDERICK, GELSER, GOLDEN, HEARD, MANNING JR, MONNES ANDERSON, TAYLOR, WAGNER, Representatives CLEM, GOMBERG, HELM, PILUSO, SOLLMAN, WIPT (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Ocean Science Fund, State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Higher Education Coordinating Commission and Oregon Department of Administrative Services for certain ocean program purposes.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to oceans; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas Oregon is an epicenter for the global manifestation of ocean acidification and hypoxia;

and

Whereas the natural seasonal process of upwelling transports corrosive waters into the nearshore and estuaries, causing marine waters within this state's jurisdiction to be especially vulnerable to ocean acidification; and

Whereas ocean acidification, hypoxia and changes in ocean temperature are intensifying; and

Whereas Oregon has rich and vibrant wild marine fisheries, including shellfish fisheries; and

Whereas ocean acidification and hypoxia are known to cause mortality and reduced growth and productivity in marine organisms, including in species that form the foundation of the marine food web; and

Whereas negative impacts from ocean acidification, hypoxia or both have already been observed in species that are commercially, culturally and economically important to this state, including oysters, mussels and crabs; and

Whereas Oregon's coastal communities and economies are important to this state and are dependent on a thriving marine ecosystem; and

Whereas ocean acidification and hypoxia severely endanger Oregon's commercially and culturally significant ocean resources; and

Whereas Oregon has academic institutions with world-class expertise in ocean issues, including ocean acidification and hypoxia; and

Whereas Oregon has played a leading role in fostering collaborative ocean acidification and hypoxia monitoring, research and action; and

Whereas the partnerships between the shellfish industry and university scientists in this state are an example to the nation for building innovative solutions to address ocean acidification and hypoxia; and

Whereas the Ocean Policy Advisory Council has identified ocean acidification as a priority issue for Oregon; and

Whereas the Oregon Ocean Science Trust has identified ocean acidification as a priority issue

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

LC 85
for research and monitoring funding; and

Whereas the Oregon Shellfish Task Force established under section 5, chapter 814, Oregon Laws 2015, and the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia, through collaboration with Oregon stakeholders, have made recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on strategic actions to address ocean acidification and hypoxia; and

Whereas strategic investments are necessary to address the risks and vulnerabilities caused by ocean acidification and hypoxia that threaten the state’s economy and ecosystems; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated out of the General Fund, for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, for deposit into the Oregon Ocean Science Fund to be expended by the Oregon Ocean Science Trust, in consultation with the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia, in the form of competitive grants, the following amounts:

1. $100,000 for intertidal ocean acidification and hypoxia monitoring at Oregon marine reserves;
2. $300,000 for subtidal ocean acidification and hypoxia monitoring at Oregon marine reserves;
3. $100,000 for ocean acidification and hypoxia monitoring at Yaquina Bay;
4. $140,000 for ecosystem modeling of submerged aquatic vegetation;
5. $25,000 to develop recommendations, through workshops or seminars, for maximizing the abundance of wild shellfish, cultured shellfish and submerged aquatic vegetation in estuaries in Oregon;
6. $150,000 to develop best management practices for conducting shellfish cultivation in a manner that protects or promotes estuarine health;
7. $180,000 to fund a study on the life cycle impacts of ocean acidification and hypoxia on shellfish species that are of importance to Oregon; and
8. $65,000 to develop a communications plan and strategy for outreach and education on ocean acidification and hypoxia impacts, science and solutions.

SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated out of the General Fund, for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife:

1. $420,000 for the shellfish and estuarine assessment of coastal Oregon project;
2. $50,000 to conduct estuary mapping for long-term documentation of ocean acidification and hypoxia impacts;
3. $90,000 to support interim monitoring during the report and evaluation of marine reserves as described in ORS 196.540 and 196.545; and
4. $250,000 to support the scientific and technical advisory committee of the Ocean Policy Advisory Council to contract with a university to research and prepare the reports required under section 4, chapter 27, Oregon Laws 2012.

SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for distribution to Oregon State University, for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, out of the General Fund:

1. $170,000 to support the Molluscan Broodstock Program at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in conjunction with the Whiskey Creek Shellfish Hatchery;
2. $100,000 to support the work of the Cooperative Institute for Marine Resources
Studies in augmentation of sampling along the Newport Hydrographic Line in order to support research on ocean acidification and hypoxia; and

(3) $100,000 to support the work of the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences in monitoring for ocean acidification using Burke-O-Lator systems.

SECTION 4. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, out of the General Fund, $250,000 for distribution to the Oregon Coast Aquarium for ocean-related educational programs.

SECTION 5. This 2020 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2020 Act takes effect on its passage.