

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Item 43: Department of Agriculture Grasshopper and Cricket Suppression**

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To:           Emergency Board Full Committee  
From:        Education Subcommittee  
Carrier:      Senator Findley

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The Education Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board allocate \$1,192,241 General Fund from the special purpose appropriation made to the Emergency Board for the state’s natural disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery activities to the Department of Agriculture for efforts and activities related to drought.

Drought conditions in central and eastern Oregon have caused significant increases in grasshopper and crickets that are adversely impacting farming and graze lands. Funding was first provided to the Department of Agriculture in the second special session of 2021 to initiate efforts to suppress grasshoppers and cricket outbreaks and to establish a cost-share program that will allow private landowners to get financial assistance for up to 75% of the expense of suppression treatment.

With the costs of treatment having increased, the Department is requesting additional funding that will bring the total amount for the program up to \$5 million, which will allow them to maintain the originally planned treatment of 750,000 to 1 million acres, maintain the 75% cost share, and encourage landowner participation.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.