

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 64: Department of Agriculture Emerald Ash Borer Response

To: Emergency Board Full Committee
From: Education Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative McLain

The Education Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board allocate \$550,000 General Fund from the Emergency Fund to the Oregon Department of Agriculture and authorize the establishment of one limited duration position (0.33 FTE) for initial response to the detection of the Emerald Ash Borer in Oregon during the 2021-23 biennium.

The Emerald Ash Borer beetle is an invasive and destructive wood-boring pest which has destroyed tens of millions of ash trees throughout the U.S. and Canada. This summer, it was discovered in the city of Forest Grove, and this is the first detection of the beetle on the west coast. The General Fund allocation will support emergency survey, education and management efforts. The Department will use existing seasonal staff and establish one limited duration position to serve as the EAB Coordinator.

The Subcommittee recommends approval.