

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: HB 2386

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

Prepared by: Kim To
Reviewed by: Paul Siebert, Doug Wilson
Date: March 30, 2021

Measure Description:

Creates Oregon Independent Science Review Board.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Office of the Governor

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Analysis:

HB 2386 establishes scientific review of natural resources by creating:

1. The Independent Scientific Review Secretariat as an administrative section within the Institute for Natural Resources established at Oregon State University (OSU). The Secretariat consists of the administrator and personnel employed in the Secretariat.
2. The seven-member Oregon Independent Science Review Board appointed and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The measure specifies the terms of office as well as attributes and qualifications for members of the Board. Members of the Board are entitled to compensation and reimbursement of expenses. The Board is directed to appoint and set compensation for the Administrator for the Independent Scientific Review Secretariat
3. The Independent Scientific Review Fund. Moneys in the Fund are continuously appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to be distributed to OSU to fund the work of the Independent Scientific Review Secretariat and the Independent Science Review Board.

The Secretariat is directed to assist the Board in convening independent scientific review panels to address requests by state agencies, local governments, and private persons for independent scientific review of complex, multidisciplinary natural resource issues.

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Oregon State University (OSU)

The full fiscal impact of establishing the Independent Scientific Review Secretariat and the Independent Science Review Board is indeterminate until the Administrator is appointed and determines the scope of work including programs and activities, as well as level of staffing. HECC estimates the startup costs of one Administrator position and one Research Associate positions to begin the work of establishing the Scientific Review Secretariat and supporting the Independent Science Review Board to be \$272,780 General Fund for the 2021-23 biennium and \$295,117 for the 2023-25 biennium.

Office of the Governor

Passage of this bill is anticipated to have minimal impact for the Office of the Governor.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of General Fund impact.