House Bill 2531

Sponsored by Representative REARDON (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.

Adds State Forestry Department, Department of Transportation and State Department of Fish and Wildlife as consulting agencies for state pollinator health outreach and education plan. Requires Oregon State University and specified agencies to meet annually and confer regarding pollinator health outreach and education plan.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to pollinator health; amending ORS 634.045.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 634.045 is amended to read:

634.045. (1)(a) Oregon State University, in consultation with the State Department of Agriculture, shall develop educational materials regarding the best practices for avoiding adverse effects from pesticides on populations of bees and other pollinating insects.

(b) The educational materials must include, but need not be limited to, measures that pesticide applicators and pesticide trainees can take to protect honeybees and bumblebees.

(c) The university and the department shall design the requirements to ensure that any pesticide applicator applying or supervising the application of a pesticide is knowledgeable regarding alternatives to, the appropriateness of, and precautions for pesticide use that may be injurious to the health of bees and other pollinating insects.

(d) The department shall make the educational materials described in this section a part of the education required for taking the pesticide applicator licensing examination under ORS 634.122.

(2)(a) Oregon State University, in consultation with the State Department of Agriculture, the State Forestry Department, the Department of Transportation and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall develop and annually revise a pollinator health outreach and education plan to educate the public regarding the best practices for increasing habitat for bees and other pollinating insects and avoiding adverse effects from pesticides on populations of bees and other pollinating insects. The plan shall include:

[(a)] (A) Educational materials that are appropriate and effective for a broad audience, including, but not limited to, pesticide applicators, consultants, dealers, operators and trainees and private applicators, as those terms are defined in ORS 634.006, and members of the public; and

[(b)] (B) A communication strategy for dissemination of educational materials using media sources, state agencies, associations and organizations.

(b) Oregon State University, including a representative of the university who specializes in pollinator health, the State Department of Agriculture, the State Forestry Department, the Department of Transportation and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall conduct an annual meeting to:

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.

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(A) Confer regarding the activities that the university and each agency undertook to promote pollinator health and increases in pollinator habitat in accordance with the plan developed under paragraph (a) of this subsection; and

(B) Review revisions to the plan developed under paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(3) The State Department of Agriculture shall develop a bee incident reporting system to facilitate public reporting of incidents related to pollinator health to the department.

(4) Oregon State University, in consultation with the State Department of Agriculture, shall develop a pesticide use safety plan to educate the public regarding best practices in the use of pesticides. The plan shall include:

(a) Educational materials that are appropriate and effective for a broad audience, including, but not limited to, pesticide applicators, consultants, dealers, operators and trainees and private applicators, as those terms are defined in ORS 634.006, and members of the public; and

(b) A communication strategy for dissemination of educational materials using media sources, state agencies, associations and organizations.