A-Engrossed

Senate Bill 404

Ordered by the Senate April 2
Including Senate Amendments dated April 2

Sponsored by Senator PROZANSKI; Senator GOLDEN (at the request of Oregon Organic Coalition) (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.

Instructs Oregon State University Extension Service to establish certain new positions related to organic production and maintain certain existing position related to organic production expand Center for Small Farms and Community Food Systems through certain hiring.

Prohibits Oregon Health Authority from removing, on basis of cost, organic food products from list of foods approved under Women, Infants and Children Program.

Directs Oregon Business Development Department to establish grant program for purpose of facilitating infrastructure to support organic food production.

Directs Oregon Business Development Department to conduct market analysis of Oregon organic market.

Directs State Department of Agriculture to promote Oregon organic agriculture through department’s Buy Oregon Agriculture program create certain new positions.

Establishes Organic Action Plan Task Force to study issues related to organic food production.

Requires task force to submit biannual reports containing recommendations for legislation to committee or interim committee of Legislative Assembly related to agriculture.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to organic food production; and prescribing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. By June 30, 2023, the Oregon State University Extension Service shall expand the Center for Small Farms and Community Food Systems by cluster hiring to fill five additional organic specialist positions.

SECTION 2. By June 30, 2023, the Oregon Business Development Department shall conduct a comprehensive statewide market analysis of the totality of the economic impacts of Oregon’s organic products sector. The market analysis shall, at minimum:

(1) Compile employment and wage data connected to production, distribution and sales of organic products in Oregon;

(2) Assess the economic impacts of Oregon’s organic trade sectors;

(3) Evaluate revenues that the Oregon state government derives from the Oregon organic products sector; and

(4) Identify and assess economic and growth opportunities related to Oregon organic products and trade.

SECTION 3. By June 30, 2023, the State Department of Agriculture shall create new full-time positions for:

(1) An Organic Policy Special Assistant to the Director of Agriculture to coordinate:
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1 (a) The marketing of organic products.
2 (b) The facilitation of trade in organic products.
3 (c) Support for implementation of organic farming practices.
4 (d) The integration of policies into all department programs that encourage organic
5 farming and the production of organic food and fiber.
6 (2) A soil health specialist.
7 SECTION 4. This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021
8 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.
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