

SB 1534 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/8, 2/8, 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines "natural and working lands and waters." Declares that it is the **policy** of the state to increase carbon sequestration in, and the resilience of, natural and working lands and waters in this state. Encourages state and local bodies to use metrics designed to track progress implementing strategies to increase carbon sequestration in natural and working lands and waters and to measure the benefits and burdens on communities associated with strategies. Directs Oregon Global Warming Commission (Commission) to appoint a **natural and working lands and waters advisory committee** (advisory committee) to advise the Commission in the performance of its duties related to natural and working lands and waters. Provides that advisory committee consists of at least 14 members, including but not limited to representatives of specified organizations and interests. Directs Institute for Natural Resources (INR) to provide and to contract with a third party to provide staff support to the advisory committee. Directs the Departments of Forestry, Agriculture, Land Conservation and Development and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to monitor each respective agency's progress in advancing the measure's policies and report its findings to the Commission no later than August 1 of each even-numbered year. Directs INR, in coordination with Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) and the Commission to consult with specified state agencies and federal land management partners to develop a **natural and working lands and waters carbon sequestration inventory**. Establishes inventory requirements. Directs ODOE to update the inventory and submit a report describing it to the Commission no later than August 1 of each even-numbered year. Directs INR, working with specified state agencies and federal land management partners to develop a **2010 - 2019 carbon sequestration baseline** for natural and working lands and waters and recommendations for **activity-based and community-based metrics**. Directs INR to provide baseline and draft recommendations for metrics to Commission no later than April 30, 2023. Directs Commission, after consultation with advisory committee, to accept or modify the draft metrics and report the metrics, including recommendations for legislation, to interim legislative committees no later than September 15, 2023. Defines "climate-smart agriculture, forestry and conservation practices." Directs INR to study the **workforce and economic development** potential of strategies to increase carbon sequestration in natural and working lands and waters, including an evaluation of the need for expanding programs for climate-smart agriculture, forestry, and conservation practices. Directs INR to provide results of study, including recommendations for legislation, to legislative committees no later than March 15, 2023. Establishes due dates for first reports. Changes date of **Commission biennial report** to Legislative Assembly to September 15 of each odd numbered year. Directs Commission to include in biennial report a description of activities in furtherance of policies for carbon sequestration in natural and working lands described in specified sections of Act. Takes effect on 91st day after adjournment of 2022 regular session.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces measure. Revisions to introduced measure include, but are not limited to: Adds "net" before "climate" and "carbon" throughout measure. Removes "and waters" throughout measure. Adds "and storage" after "sequestration" throughout measure. Revises legislative declaration of state policy. Revises list of Natural and Working Lands Advisory Committee (advisory committee) members. Directs Institute for Natural Resources (INR) to coordinate with advisory committee to develop the carbon sequestration inventory and to develop

recommendations for a net carbon sequestration and storage baseline for natural and working land. Modifies description of activity-based metrics to add increasing resilience of natural and working lands and deletes inclusion of acres of lands or waters that represent an increase in natural and working lands and waters. Modifies description of community metrics to address landowners and land managers and environmental justice communities. Revises definition of "climate-smart agriculture, forestry and conservation practices." Changes date of INR report to Legislative Assembly to April 15, 2023.

BACKGROUND:

According to the United States Geological Survey, carbon sequestration is "the process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide" and "biologic carbon sequestration" is the "storage of atmospheric carbon in vegetation, soils, woody products, and aquatic environments."

On March 10, 2020, Governor Brown issued Executive Order 20-04 directing state agencies to take actions to reduce and regulate greenhouse gas emissions. The order directed the Oregon Global Warming Commission (Commission) to work with the Oregon Departments of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to develop and submit a proposal for setting a carbon sequestration and storage goal for Oregon's natural and working lands. In 2021, the Commission published the "Natural and Working Lands Proposal." The Proposal recommended an outcome-based goal and the establishment of state metrics and four strategies to achieve the goal.