

# DRAFT

## SUMMARY

Digest: The Act gives money to HECC to give to OSU for veterinary programs. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.4).

Appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for distribution to Oregon State University for veterinary programs.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to state financial administration; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas Oregon has six locations federally identified as suffering a shortage of veterinary medical doctors; and

Whereas Oregon's agriculture is a significant economic sector producing 13 percent of the state's gross domestic product; and

Whereas zoonotic diseases are a persistent and growing public health threat; and

Whereas diseases and pathogens threaten Oregon's wildlife and can impact recreation opportunities; and

Whereas the Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine at Oregon State University is the only accredited veterinary college in Oregon, with a mission to advance the health of animals, people and the environment through inclusive and equitable education, research and services to the public; and

Whereas the college's Lois Bates Acheson Veterinary Teaching Hospital develops industry-leading professionals through research and the practice of evidence-based medicine; and

Whereas the college also houses the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, the state's only laboratory providing a full range of animal disease diagnostic services, which works closely with local, state and federal agencies to support public health and agricultural biosecurity through diagnostic testing and surveillance of zoonotic and foreign animal diseases; now, therefore,

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

**SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$10,000,000 for distribution to the Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine at Oregon State University to be used to support veterinary education programs and the college's Lois Bates Acheson Veterinary Teaching Hospital.**

**SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$3,500,000 for distribution to the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Oregon State University to be used to support faculty and personnel working on zoonotic diseases and chronic wasting disease.**

**SECTION 3. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on July 1, 2025.**