

SB 955 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Patricia Pascone, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$300,000 in General Fund monies for the 2023-2025 biennium for the Oregon State University Extension Service's expenses in establishing an endowment to fund an AgriStress Helpline in Oregon. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The AgriStress Helpline is a mental health hotline specifically for agricultural producers and workers and their particular health needs. It was created and is staffed by a partnership of nonprofits who provide care during the call and refer callers to resources in their community for follow-up care. Six states currently have an AgriStress Helpline: Connecticut, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, and Wyoming.

Senate Bill 955 would appropriate \$300,000 for establishing an endowment to fund an AgriStress Helpline in Oregon.