

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 5048

Elliott State Research Forest Authority

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Anderson

HB 5048 is the budget bill for the Elliott State Research Forest Authority. The creation of the Authority and initial statutory provisions regarding the management, advisory committee oversight, operations, and financial management of the Authority are contained in the agency's enabling legislation, SB 1546, 2022 regular session.

The \$4,002,125 General Fund budget for the agency assumes operating costs for the eighteen months following the establishment of the agency on January 1, 2024. The budget includes administrative expenditures of \$599,902 and professional services contract funding of \$3,402,250 for the research forest operations, which will be done by Oregon State University via contract with the Authority.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends HB 5048 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.