

HB 2910 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Action Date: 03/07/23

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.
(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 11-0-0-0

Yeas: 11 - Bynum, Diehl, Elmer, Javadi, Lively, Morgan, Nguyen D, Osborne, Pham H, Ruiz, Walters

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 1/26, 3/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$2 million to Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Service for distribution to OSU Center for the Outdoor Recreation Economy (CORE) for purpose of developing professional and workforce development programs for outdoor recreation economy to address critical and urgent skill gaps in specialized, technical, and leadership roles. Appropriates \$1 million to the OSU Extension Service for distribution to CORE for developing program to provide facilitation services and technical assistance grants to communities affected by wildfire for community engagement in planning and construction of outdoor recreation facilities to support communities' economic recovery. Allocates \$500,000 to Oregon Business, Innovation and Trade Fund for matching grants to support membership organizations and business accelerators in outdoor gear and apparel industry. Requires Oregon Business Development Department report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly related to economic development no later than September 15, 2024, on the use of grant funds. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for state investment
- Industry funding for these programs

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Distributes \$2 million to the Oregon State University Extension Service for distribution to the Center for the Outdoor Recreation Economy (CORE). Replaces the Industry Competitiveness Fund with the Oregon Business, Innovation and Trade Fund for the purpose of awarding matching grants to business accelerators.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State University (OSU) Center for the Outdoor Recreation Economy (CORE) is a partnership of OSU's Division of Extension and Engagement, the College of Forestry, and OSU-Cascades. CORE focuses on workforce development for the outdoor recreation industry. CORE works on research, program development, industry engagement, and higher education outreach.

House Bill 2910 A appropriates \$3,500,000 to the Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) for distribution to OSU's Extension Service and then to CORE to support outdoor recreation industry programs, innovation, and wildfire recovery: \$2,000,000 to CORE to develop professional and workforce development programs; \$1,000,000 to CORE to develop a program helping communities economically recover from wildfires; and \$500,000 to OSU-Cascades for fabrication and maker station to support prototyping.

HB 2910 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Business accelerators are programs accelerating the development of an idea or startup company. These programs typically provide a combination of mentoring, networking, education, and funds to help some group or cohort of growing business to develop quickly. House Bill 2910 A allocates \$500,000 to the OBDD Oregon Business, Innovation and Trade Fund for matching grants to support membership organizations and business accelerators in outdoor gear and apparel industry. Requires OBDD report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly related to economic development no later than September 15, 2024, on the use of grant funds.