

HB 3366 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Action Date: 03/23/23

Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Boice, Gamba, Hartman, Helm, Levy B, Marsh, McLain, Owens, Scharf

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Anna Glueder, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/14, 3/16, 3/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$800,000 General Fund moneys to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) for deposit in the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund (OAHF) for the purpose of hiring a full-time program coordinator, a conservation easement specialist, and a grant support specialist. Appropriates \$10 million General Fund moneys to OWEB for deposition in the OAHF to carry out grant programs, pay reimbursements and staff support expenses, provide succession planning programs, and pay administrative board expenses associated with the fund.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Amount of federal funding and associated local funding match
- Potential of the measure to leverage federal funding
- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund (OAHF) was established as part of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAFP) in 2017 to help address challenges for farms and ranches associated with farmland fragmentation and conversions, complex regulations, and planning for generational transfers. The program provides voluntary incentives to farmers and ranchers to support practices that maintain or enhance agricultural and natural resources.

House Bill 3366 would appropriate \$800,000 General Fund moneys for staffing and \$10 million General Fund moneys for grant programs and program expenditures to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board for deposit in the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund.