2023 Legislative Session



HB 3019: OFRI REFORM

Using recommendations from the Secretary of State, HB 3019 seeks to make OFRI's mission clear and guide it into the future with the appropriate scope and resources.

Summary

• Implements Oregon Environmental Literacy Plan using funds from additional privilege tax under forest products harvest tax, while funding OFRI and OFLP. Diversifies OFRI board.

Monies from tax will be distributed as follows:

- 33% to Oregon Forest Resources Institute
- 33% to Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund
- 34% to Higher Education Coordinating Commission for use by OSU Extension to implement Oregon Environmental Literacy Plan



Senate President and House Speaker shall jointly appoint to the board:

- One voting member representing the environmental community
- One voting member with fishery or wildlife related science
- One nonvoting independent member to represent the public
- The Dean of the College of Forestry at Oregon State University shall serve on the board as a nonvoting member.

Conditions

- OFRI may not expend funds on advertising for public education related for forest practices or on educational materials, trainings, tours or other outreach that does not include conservation perspective.
- Instructs State Forestry Department to review, validate, approve or disapprove accuracy of OFRI communications and publications.

