

Senate Bill 358

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON RULES (at the request of United Brotherhood of Carpenters)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Creates Oregon Quality Jobs Board. Establishes duties and responsibilities. Directs board to report biennially to Legislative Assembly. Requires natural resource agencies to develop quality employment goals and to develop and implement demonstration projects.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to natural resource agencies.

3 Whereas the State of Oregon has adopted goals to advance sustainability through public and
4 private efforts to jointly and mutually enhance environmental, economic and social well-being; and

5 Whereas natural resource management and restoration can provide multiple beneficial outcomes,
6 as suggested by these sustainability goals, by more efficiently and effectively allocating expenditures
7 of state natural resource agencies; and

8 Whereas allocation of current state expenditures on natural resource management and restora-
9 tion may become more cost-efficient and effective at achieving multiple beneficial outcomes by de-
10 veloping and enhancing innovative collaborative efforts among agencies and interest groups and by
11 utilizing alternative methods of contracting and funding natural resource management and restora-
12 tion projects; now, therefore,

13 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

14 **SECTION 1. As used in sections 1 to 5 of this 2005 Act:**

15 (1) **“Demonstration project” means a natural resource management or restoration**
16 **project that:**

17 (a) **Is subject to the criteria and benchmarks established by the Oregon Quality Jobs**
18 **Board;**

19 (b) **Is designed to achieve quality employment goals; and**

20 (c) **Utilizes alternative contracting or alternative funding methods.**

21 (2) **“High quality job” means an employment position that provides a living wage, health**
22 **care, other employee benefits and opportunities for job advancement and training.**

23 (3) **“Longer duration” means an employment position that offers consistent, full-time**
24 **work for all months of the calendar year, regardless of seasonal needs, availability or the**
25 **duration of individual contracts or projects.**

26 (4) **“Multiple beneficial outcomes” means results from a demonstration project that pro-**
27 **vide more than just direct employment benefits. A project with multiple beneficial outcomes**
28 **may provide, in addition to direct employment benefits, rural economic stability, progress**
29 **toward recovery goals for endangered or threatened species, environmental benefits, cost**
30 **efficiency or cost effectiveness.**

31 (5) **“Natural resource agency” means any state agency that performs, as part of the**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 function of that agency, activities that affect the natural resources or natural environment
2 of the state.

3 (6) "Natural resource management and restoration" means watershed restoration,
4 silvicultural activities, transportation projects and other physical activities that affect na-
5 tural resources.

6 (7) "Quality employment goals" means written statements adopted by natural resource
7 agencies that establish a preference for high quality jobs and longer duration, higher skilled
8 employment opportunities.

9 **SECTION 2.** (1) There is established the Oregon Quality Jobs Board consisting of nine
10 members appointed by the Governor.

11 (2) The board shall be composed of the following members:

12 (a) A chairperson appointed from the Economic and Community Development Depart-
13 ment;

14 (b) Four members representing natural resource agencies, appointed from the following
15 agencies with no more than one person from any one agency:

16 (A) The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board;

17 (B) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife;

18 (C) The State Forestry Department;

19 (D) The Department of State Lands;

20 (E) The Department of Environmental Quality;

21 (F) The Water Resources Department;

22 (G) The Natural Resources Division of the State Department of Agriculture; and

23 (H) The Department of Transportation;

24 (c) One member to represent rural communities in the state;

25 (d) One member to represent unions or other labor organizations;

26 (e) One member to represent temporary or transient workers; and

27 (f) One member to represent environmental interest groups.

28 (3) The term of office of each member is two years, but a member serves at the pleasure
29 of the Governor. Before the expiration of the term of a member, the Governor shall appoint
30 a successor whose term begins on January 1 next following. A member is eligible for reap-
31 pointment. If there is a vacancy for any cause, the Governor shall make an appointment to
32 become immediately effective for the unexpired term.

33 (4) A majority of the members of the board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of
34 business.

35 (5) The board shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or
36 of a majority of the members of the board.

37 (6) A member of the board who is not compensated from another source for expenses or
38 for time spent in performance of official duties is entitled to compensation and expenses in
39 the manner and amounts provided in ORS 292.495. Claims for compensation and expenses
40 incurred in performing the functions of the board shall be paid out of funds appropriated to
41 the board for that purpose. Notwithstanding ORS 292.495, a member of the board who is ap-
42 pointed from a state agency is not entitled to compensation or actual and necessary travel
43 or other expenses from funds appropriated to the board.

44 (7) All natural resource agencies are directed to assist the board in the performance of
45 its functions and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish such

1 information and advice as the members of the board consider necessary to perform those
 2 functions.

3 **SECTION 3.** Notwithstanding the term of office specified by section 2 of this 2005 Act,
 4 the members first appointed to the Oregon Quality Jobs Board shall adopt a method for es-
 5 tablishing the initial terms of office of board members so that the terms of office do not all
 6 expire on the same date.

7 **SECTION 4.** The Oregon Quality Jobs Board shall:

8 (1) Assist natural resource agencies in improving the cost efficiency and effectiveness
 9 of expenditures on natural resource management and restoration activities.

10 (2) Coordinate with and assist natural resource agencies in the development of quality
 11 employment goals for residents of rural communities to be used when implementing demon-
 12 stration projects.

13 (3) Direct natural resource agencies to:

14 (a) Develop and implement demonstration projects;

15 (b) Conduct natural resource management and restoration activities that meet quality
 16 employment goals and result in multiple beneficial outcomes; and

17 (c) Coordinate with other natural resource agencies on demonstration projects where
 18 possible.

19 (4) Assist natural resource agencies in implementing and monitoring:

20 (a) Demonstration projects; and

21 (b) Worker training or certification programs.

22 (5) Establish benchmarks and criteria for:

23 (a) Demonstration projects; and

24 (b) Documenting and evaluating the outcomes of demonstration projects.

25 (6) Analyze conditions in labor markets, determine natural resource management and
 26 restoration needs, determine natural resource liabilities and review alternative contracting
 27 and funding methods used in demonstration projects.

28 (7) Conduct an annual review of demonstration projects utilizing the benchmarks and
 29 criteria established by the board for compliance with quality employment goals and for at-
 30 tainment of multiple beneficial outcomes.

31 (8) Consult with the Attorney General to develop model contracts appropriate for use in
 32 demonstration projects.

33 (9) Report biennially to the Legislative Assembly on the activities of the board.

34 **SECTION 5.** (1) Every natural resource agency shall:

35 (a) Develop quality employment goals; and

36 (b) Develop and implement demonstration projects.

37 (2) Demonstration projects developed and implemented pursuant to this section:

38 (a) May reorganize agency expenditures using alternative contracting or alternative
 39 funding methods.

40 (b) Are exempt from the Public Contracting Code.

41 **SECTION 6.** The Oregon Quality Jobs Board shall coordinate and assist in the develop-
 42 ment of at least five demonstration projects through natural resource agencies during the
 43 biennium beginning July 1, 2005.

44 **SECTION 7.** The natural resource agencies referred to in section 5 of this 2005 Act shall
 45 develop quality employment goals prior to January 2, 2008.

