Enrolled

House Bill 3451

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Oceangoing Research Vessel Program is established at Oregon State University in order to assist in the research and study of the waters of the Pacific Coast. Potential areas of research include, but are not limited to:

(a) Mapping the seabed in Oregon's territorial sea, as defined in ORS 196.405;

(b) Analyzing marine ecosystems, including but not limited to existing marine reserves, existing marine protected areas, proposed marine reserves and proposed marine protected areas;

(c) Analyzing the potential effects of climate change, including but not limited to ocean acidification;

(d) Compiling comprehensive assessments of overall ocean health;

(e) Understanding ocean dynamics, including but not limited to natural hazards such as tsunamis; and

(f) Installing instruments to effectively monitor the impact of wave energy systems, marine reserves and marine protected areas on marine ecosystems and fish populations.

(2) The Oceangoing Research Vessel Program shall solicit from state agencies and from students and faculty within the Oregon University System proposals for the use of a research vessel operated under the program.

(3) In order to effectively allocate the use of research vessels operated under the Oceangoing Research Vessel Program, there is established a Research Vessel Council, consisting of seven members appointed by the President of Oregon State University. The president shall appoint to the council:

(a) At least one member who is a trained scientist with at least five years of marine research experience;

(b) Upon request from the agency, at least one member from each of the following agencies:

(A) State Department of Fish and Wildlife;
(B) State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries;
(C) Department of Land Conservation and Development; and
(D) Department of Environmental Quality; and

(c) At least one member who has expertise in marine operations or marine education.
(4) The Research Vessel Council shall evaluate proposals submitted under subsection (2) of this section on the basis of the:
   (a) Proposal's geographical area of study;
   (b) Quality of the submitted management, research or educational rationale; and
   (c) Feasibility of accommodating the proposed work within the schedule of federally funded projects for the research vessel.

(5) The Research Vessel Council shall schedule the use of a research vessel for selected proposals as part of the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System ship scheduling process.

SECTION 2. Not later than November 30, 2015, Oregon State University shall submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to education. The report shall include, but is not limited to:
   (1) A summary of the scholarly findings and research conducted under the Oceangoing Research Vessel Program;
   (2) A summary of additional research needed; and
   (3) An analysis of federal funding provided and committed to the program and a determination as to whether the amount of federal funds is sufficient for the program to continue.

SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for allocation to the Oregon University System, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2013, out of the General Fund, the amount of $300,000 for distribution to Oregon State University for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of sections 1 and 2 of this 2013 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect July 1, 2013.