

SB 197 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) to adopt by rule a program for regulating air contaminant emissions from dairy confined animal feeding operations (CAFO). Directs that program should be based on recommendations of Task Force on Dairy Air Quality to extent feasible. Requires EQC to consult with listed agencies and be advised by a committee appointed by EQC that represents interested parties, including the dairy industry, environmental public interest organizations, and institutions of higher education with expertise in science and technology related to air emissions generated by dairies.

Authorizes EQC and the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) providing for ODA to operate a program regulating air contaminant emissions from dairy CAFOs. Under MOU, ODA would be authorized to perform any function of EQC or Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and to enter onto and inspect a CAFO or appurtenant land to investigate source of emissions or ascertain compliance with program. Provides ODA with access to pertinent records of CAFO, including but not limited to blueprints or operating plan.

Provisions authorizing program become operative on January 1, 2019. Directs DEQ to submit a report on program implementation to interim legislative committee on or before September 15, 2020.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 235 (2007) established a Task Force on Dairy Air Quality and charged it with studying the emissions from dairy operations, evaluating available alternatives for reducing emissions, and presenting findings and recommendations to the Departments of Agriculture and Environmental Quality. The Task Force delivered its report in July 2008, recommending that the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) work with other specified agencies to adopt rules to implement a proposed "Oregon Dairy Air Emissions Program" based upon a set of guiding principles and starting as a voluntary program.

Senate Bill 197 would direct the EQC to adopt by rule a program for regulating air contaminant emissions from dairy confined animal feeding operations based to the extent feasible on the recommendations of the Task Force on Dairy Air Quality.