

SB 536 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: 2/14, 2/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Agriculture for distribution to the Food Innovation Center of Oregon State University to support product development relating to milk. Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

Subsequent referral to Joint Ways and Means

Fiscal statement issued

No revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Decline in milk prices paid to dairy farmers
- Importance of new value-added dairy products to dairy industry

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State University Food Innovation Center (FIC) Agricultural Experiment Station is located in Portland, Oregon. The FIC website describes the center as "a resource for client based product and process development, packaging engineering and shelf life studies, food safety, and consumer sensory testing." The FIC also conducts research into the development of processing, packaging and traceability technologies, and addresses food safety issues. The Agricultural Development and Marketing division of the Oregon Department of Agriculture is located at the FIC.

Senate Bill 536 would appropriate \$250,000 to the FIC to support milk product development.