

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 600

Ordered by the Senate April 30
Including Senate Amendments dated April 30

Sponsored by Senator NELSON (Presession filed.)

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.

Directs Water Resources Department to conduct statewide water supply and conservation opportunities assessment. Sets completion date of July 1, 2009.
Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department to pay costs of assessment.
Sunsets January 2, 2010.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to statewide water supply assessment; and appropriating money.

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

4 **SECTION 1. The Legislative Assembly finds that:**

5 (1) **The Oregon Progress Board's State of the Environment Report 2000 noted that one**
6 **of the state's major environmental challenges is an inadequate supply of water.**

7 (2) **Surface waters in most of Oregon are fully appropriated by existing out-of-stream and**
8 **in-stream uses, except during periods outside the irrigation season when stream flows are**
9 **generally higher.**

10 (3) **Ground water resources in Oregon are showing signs of overuse and are becoming**
11 **unstable in many areas.**

12 (4) **Conflicts between out-of-stream and in-stream needs are becoming increasingly**
13 **divisive and expensive to resolve.**

14 (5) **Opportunities exist for partnerships and water project development in many**
15 **subbasins, including the Umatilla River subbasin and the Walla Walla River subbasin, and**
16 **these opportunities can be supported through state participation and funding to complement**
17 **the current efforts of the federal government.**

18 **SECTION 2. The Water Resources Department shall conduct a statewide water supply**
19 **and conservation opportunities assessment. The purpose of this assessment is to allow the**
20 **state to:**

21 (1) **Identify challenges in ensuring sufficient water supplies in meeting existing and fu-**
22 **ture beneficial uses of water;**

23 (2) **Provide data for prioritizing future water storage and conservation projects;**

24 (3) **Identify periods of water availability from the Columbia River for possible use in**
25 **Oregon; and**

26 (4) **Maximize the benefits of ongoing partnerships between the federal government, the**
27 **state government, tribal organizations and private entities, such as the partnerships in 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 Umatilla River subbasin and the Walla Walla River subbasin.

2 **SECTION 3.** The statewide water supply and conservation opportunities assessment shall:

3 (1) Review existing and future water needs in Oregon, including out-of-stream and in-
4 stream water needs;

5 (2) Develop a statewide inventory of potential storage sites, including above ground res-
6 ervoires and below ground sites such as artificial recharge projects;

7 (3) Analyze water supply that may be gained through greater adoption of efficient water
8 use practices;

9 (4) Investigate basin yield estimates, focusing on the amount of runoff that can be ex-
10 pected each year, or each season, for various drainage basins;

11 (5) Analyze water supply benefits that may be gained from water exchanges identified in
12 the Bureau of Reclamation of the United States Department of the Interior "Umatilla Basin
13 Project Phase III Feasibility Study" and the United States Army Corps of Engineers "Walla
14 Walla Instream Flow Project"; and

15 (6) Develop a funding program for community-based water supply planning that provides
16 incentive funding to communities that develop strategies to meet their long-term water
17 supply needs.

18 **SECTION 4.** The Water Resources Department shall complete the statewide water supply
19 and conservation opportunities assessment described in sections 2 and 3 of this 2007 Act by
20 July 1, 2009, and report the results of the assessment by this date to the Legislative As-
21 sembly in the manner provided in ORS 192.245. A copy of the report shall also be provided
22 to the Bureau of Reclamation of the United States Department of the Interior and to the
23 United States Army Corps of Engineers.

24 **SECTION 5.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
25 ated to the Water Resources Department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, out of the
26 General Fund, the amount of \$1,000,000 to pay the costs of the statewide water supply and
27 conservation opportunities assessment described in sections 2 and 3 of this 2007 Act. From
28 this amount, \$50,000 shall be used to support the Bureau of Reclamation of the United States
29 Department of the Interior "Umatilla Basin Project Phase III Feasibility Study" and \$50,000
30 shall be used to support the United States Army Corps of Engineers "Walla Walla Instream
31 Flow Project."

32 **SECTION 6.** Sections 1 to 4 of this 2007 Act are repealed on January 2, 2010.
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