

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 3 - 1 - 1

Yeas: Hass, Prozanski, Dingfelder

Nays: Atkinson

Exc.: Boquist

Prepared By: Beth Herzog, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/10, 3/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Defines “high priority watershed,” “measurement,” “significant diversion,” and “water measuring device.” Requires that the Water Resources Department (WRD) report to the Legislative Assembly biennially regarding the number of significant diversions in high priority watersheds that have installed and are using water measuring devices. Requires that if water measurement of all significant diversions within high priority watersheds has been achieved that the WRD report the number of significant diversions within the state that have installed and are using water measuring devices. Requires that the WRD file a biennial request with a Senate natural resources committee for a public hearing.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Water Resources Commission adopted strategic plan in 2000
- Gaps in measurement of stream flows and diversions in current strategic measurement plan

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the text of the bill.

BACKGROUND: The existing water measurement strategy directs the WRD to improve water use measurement and focus on significant diversions within high priority watersheds. WRD, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, has identified approximately 2,200 significant diversions in high priority watersheds. These diversions account for 10% of the overall diversions and 50% of the total volume of water diverted in Oregon.