

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 3 - 2 - 0
Yeas: Hass, Prozanski, Dingfelder
Nays: Olsen, Thomsen
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Beth Patrino, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 2/2, 2/7, 2/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes sunset on authority for split season water right leases.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- If injury test is applied to split season water right leases
- Number of split season lease applications
- How split season leases work
- Five year limit on leases in administrative rule

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In Oregon, most existing water rights are eligible to lease to instream use provided the lease does not injure other existing water rights. A split season lease may be used if a water right is to be used for both the existing authorized purpose and for instream use during the same year. A water right holder with a split season lease must measure and report to the Water Resources Department the water used for both purposes. The statutory authority for split season leases is set to sunset on January 2, 2014. Senate Bill 1513 would remove the sunset.