

GRANT REQUEST PONY

**Oregon Health Authority
Domestic Well Safety Program**

(Reported out of Subcommittee on 5/8/13)

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Committee on Ways and Means approve the submission of a federal grant application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the amount of up to \$175,000 per year for two years, to address health hazards related to private wells and other small drinking water systems.

This grant funding would enable the agency to analyze data that are already available relating to contaminants in private wells and other small drinking water systems. Based on the results of the analyses, the agency would work with local public health departments and communities to develop and implement educational outreach about those hazards.

The agency will need one new limited duration part-time position to work on data entry and analysis. Funds will also support part of an existing position to coordinate communications, outreach and education efforts.

The grant application was due on May 15, 2013. If approved, funding would begin on September 1, 2013 and end August 31, 2015. No state matching funds are required for the grant.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.

Federal Grant Application Request

Oregon Health Authority

Domestic Well Safety Program

Analyst: Linda Ames

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the amount of up to \$175,000 per year for two years, to address health hazards related to private wells and other small drinking water systems.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Analysis: The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is requesting approval from the Joint Committee on Ways and Means to apply for the “Improving capacity to assess and manage risks associated with private wells and other small drinking water systems” grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Grant funding is expected to be up to \$175,000 per year for two years. No state matching funds are required for the grant, nor is there a requirement for maintenance of effort.

This grant funding would enable the agency to analyze data that is already available relating to contaminants in private wells and other small drinking water systems. Based on the results of the analyses, the agency would work with local public health departments and communities to develop and implement educational outreach about those hazards. The specific outreach and education strategies will depend on the type and magnitude of the hazards being discussed, as well as the level of community involvement. Efforts could include local advertising, public interest articles in local publications, brochures for local stakeholders, and community meetings. Information provided would include such things as the specific risk in the area, how to get drinking water tested, and options available for treating water to make it safe.

The agency will need one new limited duration part-time position to work on data entry and analysis. Funds will also support part of an existing position to coordinate communications, outreach and education efforts.

The grant application is due on May 15, 2013. If approved, funding would begin on September 1, 2013 and end August 31, 2015. If necessary, additional expenditure limitation and position authority could be included in the OHA 2013-15 budget, or be added later in the biennium.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.