

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2259 - A

Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2013 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Increases certain fees charged by Water Resources Department.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Water Resources Department

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

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	2013-15 Biennium	2015-17 Biennium
Other Funds	996,211	996,211
Total Funds	\$996,211	\$996,211
Positions	7	7
FTE	7.00	7.00

Summary of Revenue Impact

	2013-15 Biennium	2015-17 Biennium
Other Funds	952,389	993,936
Total Funds	\$952,389	\$993,936

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

Fees adopted by the Legislature in 2009 to replace \$2.1 million General Fund in the Water Resources Department (WRD) and sunset July 1, 2013. The bill extends and standardizes the water right transactions fee schedule. The proposed fee schedule authorizes base 2009 levels, plus 2% or CPI for each year back to 2009 or in effect, by an estimated 8%. The Water Resources Commission may increase future fee amounts by the lesser of 2% or the percentage of the Portland-Salem Consumer Price Index. Approval of a 13% increase is anticipated in the Governor's Budget for WRD in policy option package #208. If the measure is approved, WRD's 2013-15 revenues will be decreased by \$47,611 which may necessitate the lay off one employee during the 2013-15 biennium.

If the measure is not approved, fees will revert back to 2003 levels. A roll-back to 2003 levels would decrease authorized funding levels and would decrease staff by 8 FTE, resulting in reducing service to customers evaluating ground water supplies, conducting ground water studies, carrying out ground water monitoring, and administration and enforcement of exempt ground water under the law.

Other Funds revenues from this measure are estimated at \$952,389 in the 2013-15 biennium and \$993,936 in the 2015-17 biennium. Revenues raised by this fee support existing positions for evaluating ground water supplies, conducting ground water studies, carrying out ground water monitoring, data

entry and administration. Total Other Funds expenditures associated with these seven positions, 7 FTE, are estimated at \$996,211 for the 2013-15 biennium and \$996,211 for the 2015-17 biennium.