

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	6 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Edwards, Girod, Monroe, Starr, Thomsen, Beyer
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Patrick Brennan, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/18, 2/25

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Reconstitutes the Well Construction Contractors Continuing Education Committee and statutory provisions related to continuing education programs for licensed water well constructors. Ratifies actions taken on or after January 7, 2014, and before effective date of measure. Sunsets January 2, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Danger of groundwater contamination from improper work on wells
- Types of courses available to meet continuing education requirements
- Unintended consequences of Senate Bill 783 (2013)
- Voluntary training compared to mandatory training
- Licensure requirements for well drillers

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Sunsets measure on January 2, 2022.

**BACKGROUND:** The Water Resources Department is the licensing agency for persons who construct, alter, convert or abandon water wells in Oregon. There are approximately 300,000 wells statewide, many of which provide drinking water. The Legislative Assembly created the Well Constructor Continuing Education Committee with the passage of Senate Bill 579 (2001) to require well constructors to complete education courses for renewal of their licenses. The Well Constructors Continuing Education Committee makes recommendations to the Water Resources Commission regarding the process for reviewing and approving continuing education requirements for licensed water well constructors. The continuing education requirement and the Committee were scheduled to sunset on January 2, 2014.

House Bill 4045-A revives the Committee and the statutory provisions related to continuing education for well constructors until January 2, 2022, at which time the program would once again sunset.