

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Beth Reiley, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 3/9, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Water Resources Department (Department) to issue grants to assist person; public body; United States agency or department; or Indian tribe in preparation of place-based integrated water resources strategies that are consistent with Department's policy and requirements. Authorizes Department to provide technical assistance and information to assist entity in preparing place-based integrated water resources strategy. Authorizes Water Resources Commission to adopt rules. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: (Proposed -7 Amendment) Replaces measure. Defines place-based integrated resources for purposes of Act. Authorizes Water Resources Department (Department) to issue grants to person; public body; or Indian tribe to facilitate preparation of place-based integrated water resources strategies (strategies) consistent with state laws, water resource policy and Department requirements. Authorizes Department to enter into contracts or agreements with, provide technical assistance and information to for development of strategies. Requires strategies be developed in collaboration with balanced representation of interests; balance current and future in and out of stream needs; include development of actions consistent with existing laws and policies; facilitate implementation of local solutions; be developed in open process; and be developed in consultation with Department. Authorizes Water Resources Commission to adopt rules. Sunsets Act July 1, 2019.

BACKGROUND: In August, 2012 the Water Resources Commission adopted the Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS) which created a statewide framework and path for meeting Oregon's instream and out-of-stream water needs. Recommended Action 9A of the IWRS calls for the voluntary undertaking of a placed-based approach to water resources planning to help communities understand and meet their instream and out-of-stream water resources needs.

Senate Bill 266 would authorize the Water Resources Department to provide grants to entities to assist in the preparation of place-based integrated water resources strategies.