

**Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session**  
**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**House Committee On Rural Communities, Land Use, and Water**

**MEASURE: HB 2400 A**  
**CARRIER: Rep. Gomberg**

**Fiscal:** No Fiscal Impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 03/24/15

**Action:** Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

**Meeting Dates:** 03/03, 03/24

**Vote:**

Yeas: 6 - Clem, Gilliam, Helm, McLane, Post, Witt

Exc: 1 - Gomberg

**Prepared By:** Ian Davidson, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Extends deadline to submit report to April 1, 2015. Deems satisfied any report submitted prior to January 31, 2015. Requires Water Resources Commission to adopt rules to take effect on January 1, 2016. Ratifies and approves any lawful action of task force taken on or after February 2, 2015 and on or before June 30, 2015. Establishes new repeal date of January 1, 2016. Requires Water Resources Commission to make seasonally varying flows condition of new or existing water storage, aquifer recharge permit, or limited license for storage of water. Allows permit or license holder to request seasonally varying flows be altered based upon new information. Expands language of statute to include current holders of water storage, aquifer recharge permit, or limited license for storage of water to be used as determination for seasonally varying flows. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Senate Bill 839 (2013)
- Snow water equivalent levels in Oregon
- Need to determine seasonally varying flows

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Replaces measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2013, Senate Bill 839 established a task force to study the structure established for water development project loans and grants and set the repeal date as July 1, 2015. Additionally, the 2013 law established another task force to study functional needs of watersheds for seasonally varying flows and financial feasibility of new water storage projects with a set repeal date of February 2, 2016.

House Bill 2400 A would extend the deadline to submit report to April 1, 2015 and deem satisfied any report submitted prior to January 31, 2015. The measure would require the Water Resources Commission to adopt rules to take effect on January 1, 2016. The measure would ratify and approve any lawful action of task force taken on or after February 2, 2015 and on or before June 30, 2015. The measure would establish a new repeal date of January 1, 2016. The measure would also require the Water Resources Commission to make seasonally varying flows a condition of new or existing water storage, aquifer recharge permit, or limited license for the storage of water. The measure would allow a permit or license holder to request seasonally varying flows be altered based upon new information. The measure would expand language of statute to include current holders of water storage, aquifer recharge permit, or limited license for the storage of water to be used as a determination for seasonally varying flows.