

Senate Bill 205

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SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Creates Task Force on Innovations in Water Quality. Requires task force to develop methods for measuring changes in water quality on farm and forest lands, develop proposed intergovernmental agreements and other agreements regarding consistent use of water quality methodology and data and develop market-based methods for improving water quality on farm and forest lands. Requires task force to submit report and recommendations to interim committee of Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2016.

Appropriates General Fund moneys to Oregon Department of Administrative Services to pay expenses of task force during 2015-2017 biennium. Authorizes task force to accept donations of moneys or nonmonetary assistance to carry out other work consistent with task force purposes. Creates account and continuously appropriates moneys to department to pay task force expenses of other work from donated moneys. Dissolves task force upon convening of 2017 regular session of Legislative Assembly.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to water quality changes on rural lands; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Innovations in Water Quality is established, consist-**
5 **ing of 13 members appointed as follows:**

6 (a) **The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the**
7 **Senate.**

8 (b) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among**
9 **members of the House of Representatives.**

10 (c) **The Governor shall appoint 11 voting members who are representative of the interests**
11 **of:**

12 (A) **Large-scale agricultural producers;**

13 (B) **Agricultural producers that are not large-scale producers;**

14 (C) **Owners of small woodlands;**

15 (D) **Owners of industrial forestlands;**

16 (E) **Irrigation districts;**

17 (F) **Cities;**

18 (G) **Federal agencies;**

19 (H) **Tribal governments;**

20 (I) **Conservation groups;**

21 (J) **Dischargers of industrial wastewater; and**

22 (K) **Political groups.**

23 (2) **Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting**
24 **members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **(3) The task force shall develop:**

2 **(a) Methods for measuring changes in water quality that:**

3 **(A) Allow the changes in water quality on farm and forest lands that result from changes**
4 **in land management, and from other conservation policies, to be documented in a low-cost**
5 **manner at regular intervals; and**

6 **(B) Are sufficient to meet the requirements of federal and state agencies that are re-**
7 **sponsible for water quality and watershed health;**

8 **(b) Proposed intergovernmental agreements and other agreements to foster consistency**
9 **in the use of water quality methodology and data among federal, state and local agencies and**
10 **organizations responsible for water quality and watershed health on farm and forest lands;**
11 **and**

12 **(c) Market-based methods for improving water quality on farm and forest lands.**

13 **(4) The task force may accept donations of moneys and nonmonetary assistance from the**
14 **United States, federal agencies or other public or private sources. The task force may agree**
15 **to conditions on the receipt of the moneys or assistance to the extent consistent with the**
16 **purposes of the task force. Any conditions on the receipt of moneys under this subsection**
17 **must be set forth in writing, including but not limited to any provisions regarding the dis-**
18 **position of unexpended moneys upon dissolution of the task force. Any moneys received by**
19 **the task force shall be deposited in the State Treasury for crediting to the Innovations in**
20 **Water Quality Account established in section 3 of this 2015 Act. Moneys that are subject to**
21 **provisions regarding disposition of unexpended moneys upon dissolution of the task force**
22 **shall be placed in separate subaccounts and accounted for separately.**

23 **(5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the**
24 **transaction of business.**

25 **(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting**
26 **members of the task force.**

27 **(7) The Governor shall select one of the task force members to serve as chairperson and**
28 **another to serve as vice chairperson, for the terms and with the duties and powers necessary**
29 **for the performance of the function of those offices as the Governor determines.**

30 **(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
31 **ment to become immediately effective.**

32 **(9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the Governor or by call of**
33 **the chairperson.**

34 **(10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

35 **(11) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and**
36 **may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative**
37 **Assembly related to water quality no later than September 15, 2016.**

38 **(12) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall provide or contract for**
39 **staff support for the task force.**

40 **(13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not**
41 **entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other**
42 **expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and**
43 **amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions**
44 **of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the department for purposes of**
45 **the task force.**

1 (14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
2 the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating
3 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force
4 consider necessary to perform their duties.

5 **SECTION 2.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
6 ated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the biennium beginning July
7 1, 2015, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$100,000, which may be expended for the
8 payment of expenses of the Task Force on Innovations in Water Quality under section 1 (12)
9 and (13) of this 2015 Act.

10 **SECTION 3.** The Innovations in Water Quality Account is established in the State
11 Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Innovations
12 in Water Quality Account shall be credited to the account. Moneys in the account are con-
13 tinuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for the pay-
14 ment of expenses of the Task Force on Innovations in Water Quality other than expenses
15 payable by the department from the appropriation made under section 2 of this 2015 Act.

16 **SECTION 4.** (1) Section 1 of this 2015 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the
17 2017 regular session of the Legislative Assembly as specified in ORS 171.010.

18 (2) Section 3 of this 2015 Act is repealed June 30, 2017. Moneys in the Innovations in
19 Water Quality Account remaining unexpended on June 30, 2017, except subaccount moneys
20 subject to other disposition as described in section 1 (4) of this 2015 Act, shall be credited to
21 the Governor's Office Operating Fund.

22 **SECTION 5.** Section 1 of this 2015 Act becomes operative September 1, 2015.

23 **SECTION 6.** This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
24 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect
25 July 1, 2015.
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