

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 27

Relating to Oregon Drinking Water Quality Act fees

SB 27 restructures the schedule of fees paid by water suppliers to support the regulation of public drinking water systems by the Oregon Health Authority. Currently, OHA is authorized to adopt rules to establish fees to support the cost of conducting periodic sanitary surveys. The bill replaces this fee with the authority to establish annual regulatory fees based on the size and type of the water system.

The change in fee structure is expected to increase fee revenue by \$1.8 million in the 2019-21 biennium. OHA would use the increased revenue to support five additional positions to improve its ability to adequately monitor the safety of Oregon's drinking water and respond to detections of contaminants. The additional revenue would also increase support for local public health authorities who perform drinking water safety inspections.

The amendment recommended by the Subcommittee establishes an emergency clause with an effective date of July 1, 2019.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends SB 27 be amended by the -A2 amendment and be reported out as do pass, as amended.