

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: HB 2856

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Measure Description:

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Water Resources Department to study ground water in this state.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Legislative Assembly, Water Resources Department (WRD)

Analysis:

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the House Committee on Energy and Environment to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

The legislation appropriates \$9 million General Fund (GF), in the 2019-21 biennium, to the Water Resources Department (WRD) for ground water studies and investigations, or the collection and analysis of other ground water data. The WRD must report to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020, and September 15, 2021, regarding how the appropriation was spent. Not later than January 1, 2020, the WRD must submit a 10-year plan to the Legislative Assembly that prioritizes ground water studies throughout this state and details any additional legislative investment necessary to implement the studies.

This appropriation corresponds to *Policy Option Package (POP) #102-Groundwater Data Management and Protection* within the WRD budget (HB 5034) which requests \$2,837,027 GF for 13 positions (8.80 FTE) in the 2019-21 biennium. The additional appropriation provided by this legislation will require further analysis to determine a reasonable timeframe in which additional positions could be hired to perform the groundwater studies in cooperation with personnel from the US Geological Survey and the Department of Geology and Minerals.

The fiscal impact to the Legislative Assembly, related to WRD reports, is anticipated to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgetary parameters.

A more complete fiscal analysis on the measure will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Further Analysis Required