

House Bill 4070

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Water for Representative Ken Helm)

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**.

Appropriates moneys to Department of Environmental Quality to award grant for on-site septic system low-interest loan programs and to cover related administrative costs.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to on-site septic system financing; and declaring an emergency.

3 Whereas in 2016 the Legislative Assembly enacted ORS 454.779, which directs the Department
4 of Environmental Quality to award grants for developing and administering loan programs to pro-
5 vide low-interest loans for the repair, replacement, upgrade or evaluation of residential or small
6 business on-site septic systems; and

7 Whereas since 2016, the Clean Water Loan program funded by a grant from the department
8 under ORS 454.779 has served over 145 families, financing projects that are now treating an esti-
9 mated total of 18 million gallons of wastewater annually; and

10 Whereas nearly one out of every three families served by the Clean Water Loan program has
11 a family income that falls below 80 percent of the county's area median income; and

12 Whereas demand remains high for low-interest loans for the repair, replacement, upgrade or
13 evaluation of residential or small business on-site septic systems; and

14 Whereas the department estimates that over 45,000 septic systems fail each year; now, therefore,

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

16 **SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
17 **ated to the Department of Environmental Quality, for the biennium ending July 1, 2021, out**
18 **of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,000,000 for the purposes of:**

19 **(1) Not later than September 1, 2020, awarding a grant under ORS 454.779 in an amount**
20 **of not less than \$1,950,000; and**

21 **(2) Covering administrative costs necessary to implement ORS 454.779.**

22 **SECTION 2. This 2020 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
23 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2020 Act takes effect**
24 **on its passage.**

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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.