

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3092 - 7

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*Prepared by: Tim Walker
Reviewed by: Matt Stayner
Date: 03/29/2021**Measure Description:**

Requires Water Resources Department to establish grant program for purpose of sharing cost of remediating reductions in amount of ground water available for domestic personal use in Greater Harney Valley Groundwater Area of Concern due to overallocation of ground water for agricultural use.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Water Resources Department (WRD)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2021-23 Biennium	2023-25 Biennium
General Fund	\$612,411	
Total Funds	\$612,411	\$0
Positions	1	
FTE	0.50	

Analysis: The measure establishes a grant program, within the Water Resources Department (WRD), for the purposes of remediating reductions in groundwater use for domestic personal use in the Greater Harney Groundwater Area of Concern. WRD may award grants for costs related to replacement repair or deepening of wells. Grant payments may provide up to 75% of the total cost of replacing, repairing or deepening the well, not to exceed \$10,000 per well and up to \$3,500 for well abandonment. The measure also specifies criteria for eligible wells and allows WRD to adopt rules. The measure establishes the Domestic Well Remediation Fund Separate from the General Fund and continuously appropriates funds to the account. In addition, the measure appropriates \$500,000 General Fund to WRD for the purposes of the bill.

WRD would need one Natural Resource Specialist 3 (0.50 FTE) to set up a grant offering, assist applicants, enter into grant agreements, and reimburse for work done.

The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) notes that the measure provides a onetime appropriation for the 2021-23 biennium. LFO assumes that funding for this program for 2023-25 and future biennium will be addressed through the biennial budgeting process for the agency.