

B-Engrossed House Bill 2018

Ordered by the House June 23
Including House Amendments dated April 8 and June 23

Sponsored by Representative OWENS; Representatives LEIF, REARDON (Presession filed.)

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.

Instructs Water Resources Department to enter into agreement with United States Geological Survey to produce and publish ground water budgets for all major hydrologic basins in this state, contract for person to produce report on statewide consumptive water use, expand ground water level monitoring network, measure progress in estimating and monitoring ground water levels, recharge and use and ensure that department staff members serve as community engagement coordinators.

Increases appropriation to department from General Fund for technical services.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to assessment of ground water resources.

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

SECTION 1. The Water Resources Department shall:

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5 (1) **Enter into a cost-matching agreement with the United States Geological Survey to**
6 **develop and publish ground water budgets for all major hydrologic basins in this state.**

7 (2) **Contract for a person to produce a peer-reviewed report on statewide consumptive**
8 **water use that summarizes historical irrigation consumptive water use for all irrigated fields**
9 **and estimates open water evaporation from all major reservoirs in this state between 1984**
10 **and 2020.**

11 (3) **Expand a comprehensive ground water level monitoring network to improve estimates**
12 **of changes in ground water storage.**

13 (4) **Measure progress in estimating and monitoring ground water levels, ground water**
14 **recharge and consumptive ground water use by:**

15 (a) **Publishing one or more reports that quantify ground water recharge for all major**
16 **hydrologic basins in this state;**

17 (b) **Producing statewide maps and datasets that quantify open water evaporation from**
18 **all major reservoirs in this state;**

19 (c) **Collecting and processing data concerning baseline ground water levels and use;**

20 (d) **Assessing the time and cost of conducting ground water basin studies; and**

21 (e) **Prioritizing hydrologic basins in this state for study.**

22 (5) **Ensure that department staff members serve as community engagement coordinators**
23 **to help communities provide the data described in this section and use the data collected by**
24 **the department pursuant to this section.**

25 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2032.**

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 **SECTION 3.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation
2 made to the Water Resources Department by section 1 (4), chapter __, Oregon Laws 2021
3 (Enrolled Senate Bill 5545), for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, for technical services is
4 increased by \$2,386,808 to implement the provisions of section 1 of this 2021 Act.
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