

House Bill 3242

Sponsored by Representative OWENS

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**.

Directs Water Resources Department to undertake certain activities related to studying and monitoring ground water. Directs department to report to committee of Eighty-second Legislative Assembly related to water.

Appropriates moneys to department out of General Fund for activities related to studying and monitoring ground water.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the assessment of ground water resources; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. The Water Resources Department shall:**

5 (1) **In cooperation with the United States Geological Survey, the ground water advisory**
6 **committee and other interested parties, develop and publish a report that:**

7 (a) **Identifies each ground water basin in this state; and**

8 (b) **For each ground water basin in this state, summarizes the known status of subsur-**
9 **face geology, ground water reservoirs, ground water levels, ground water budgets,**
10 **consumptive ground water use, ground water-dependent ecosystems and other information**
11 **that affects the management of ground water resources.**

12 (2) **Identify ground water use issues associated with each ground water basin.**

13 (3) **Develop recommendations for:**

14 (a) **How to determine which ground water basins most need detailed ground water studies**
15 **and management; and**

16 (b) **Methods to regularly report to the Legislative Assembly on statewide consumptive**
17 **ground water use, historical use of ground water to irrigate fields and estimates of water**
18 **evaporation, since 1984, from all major reservoirs in this state.**

19 (4) **Identify a comprehensive network for monitoring ground water levels that will im-**
20 **prove estimates of ground water use.**

21 (5) **Report to a committee of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly related to water, in**
22 **the manner provided in ORS 192.245, on the department's:**

23 (a) **Estimated costs and timing of providing regular basin reports on ground water re-**
24 **charge, consumptive ground water use, evapotranspiration, ground water levels and trends,**
25 **the status of ground water-dependent ecosystems and methods for monitoring ground water**
26 **use;**

27 (b) **Estimated costs and timing of conducting ground water basin studies; and**

28 (c) **Recommendations for how to prioritize water management in the major hydrological**
29 **basins in this state.**

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 2.** There is appropriated to the Water Resources Department, for the biennium
2 beginning July 1, 2021, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$250,000 for the purposes de-
3 scribed in section 1 of this 2021 Act.

4 **SECTION 3.** This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
5 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect
6 on its passage.

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