

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Digest: This Act sets a state policy on water reuse and tells DEQ and OWRD to make a water reuse team. (Flesch Readability Score: 85.0).

Establishes state policy on water reuse. Directs the Department of Environmental Quality and the Water Resources Department to establish an interagency water reuse development team.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to water reuse; and prescribing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Legislative Assembly finds and declares that it is the policy of this state to encourage water reuse and to expand opportunities for water reuse in this state.

(2) The Legislative Assembly finds and declares that it is the policy of this state that agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, work together to encourage and expand opportunities for water reuse by overcoming institutional and regulatory barriers and funding constraints and improving policies and internal operations related to water reuse.

SECTION 2. (1) The Department of Environmental Quality and the Water Resources Department shall jointly establish an interagency water reuse development team. Other agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, shall participate in the water reuse development team as requested by the Department of Environmental Quality and the Water Resources Department.

(2) The water reuse development team shall:

(a) Provide training and education to state agency staff on the benefits and drivers of water reuse projects and the state policy to encourage and expand opportunities for water reuse;

(b) Identify, with respect to the development of water reuse projects, internal barriers within agencies, information needs within agencies and conflicts between agencies that must be resolved to expand water reuse in this state;

(c) Identify internal agency or regulatory changes needed to overcome barriers to water reuse;

(d) Work to resolve conflicts between agencies;

(e) Ensure that information and agency contacts regarding water reuse are current and accessible; and

(f) Ensure that, for each agency participating in the team, responses to requests for information from the public or other government agencies regarding water reuse are consistent and timely.

SECTION 3. This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2025 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.