

## HB 3321 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

---

**Prepared By:** Anna Glueder, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/9, 3/21

---

#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to coordinate and consult with county environmental health agencies to study the needs and vulnerabilities of county-regulated small community water systems and submit a report to water-related interim committees of the legislature by December 31, 2024. Authorizes OHA to provide funding to county governments to assist with the study. Appropriates \$2 million General Fund moneys to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for distribution to the Oregon Association of Water Utilities to design and construct a water utility training center and to fund two staff members to provide technical, financial, and managerial support and resources to individuals.

*REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued*

*FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued*

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

##### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces the measure. Directs the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to enter into a contract with the Oregon Association of Water Utilities (OAWU) to perform and enter into contract with a third party to, in consultation with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD), county environmental health departments and county emergency managers to design, study the needs and vulnerabilities of small and very small community water systems, including water supply reliability and quality, utility board operations and management, infrastructure, natural hazards, certain financial aspects, regulations and safety standards, and opportunities for emergency interties, system consolidation and regionalization. Requires the third-party contract to further direct OAWU to design and construct a water utility training center to provide technical, financial, and managerial support and resources to individuals; hire and employ one training specialist and two technical assistance providers; and to submit a report to water-related interim committees of the legislature by December 31, 2024. Appropriates \$2,5 million General Fund moneys to DAS for distribution to OAWU. Directs OHA, DEQ, and OWRD to cooperate with OAWU by providing any data or requested information associated with the study. Sunsets January 2, 2025.

*REVENUE: No revenue impact*

*FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued*

#### BACKGROUND:

A community water system (CWS) supplies water to the same population year-round. It serves at least 25 people at their primary residences or at least 15 residences that are primary residences. In Oregon, small water systems are required to have an operator with a small water system (SWS) operator certification, which can be obtained from OHA after a one-day training course and the completion of an exam.

House Bill 3321 would direct OHA to study small community water systems and to report findings to water-related interim committees of the legislature by December 31, 2024. The measure would also appropriate \$2 million General Fund moneys to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for distribution to Oregon

**HB 3321 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

Association of Water Utilities to establish a water utility training center and associated staff.

PRELIMINARY