

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3321

Ordered by the House March 27
Including House Amendments dated March 27

Sponsored by Representatives OWENS, HELM, EVANS, MARSH; Representatives BOICE, GAMBA, PHAM K,
Senator SMITH DB

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.

[Directs Oregon Health Authority to study small community water systems. Requires authority to submit findings to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to water not later than December 31, 2024.]

[Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Department of Administrative Services for distribution to Oregon Association of Water Utilities to establish water utility training center.]

Directs Oregon Department of Administrative Services to enter into contract with Oregon Association of Water Utilities to perform, or enter into contract with third party to perform, study of needs and vulnerabilities of small and very small community water systems, design and construct water utility training center and hire three staff to provide related support and resources. Requires association to submit report to Legislative Assembly no later than December 31, 2024.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department to carry out contract.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to community water systems.

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

SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,500,000, for purposes of implementing section 2 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall enter into a contract with the Oregon Association of Water Utilities to implement this section. The contract must include, but need not be limited to, a provision requiring the association to:

(a) Perform, or enter into a contract with a third party to perform, a study of the needs and vulnerabilities of small and very small community water systems, including but not limited to the following topics:

(A) Water supply reliability.

(B) Source and treated water quality.

(C) Utility board and operations management.

(D) Infrastructure.

(E) Droughts, floods and earthquakes.

(F) Funding, financial stability and water rates.

(G) Regulations and safe drinking water standards.

(H) Opportunities for emergency interties, system consolidation and regionalization.

(b) Design and construct a water utility training center to provide technical, financial

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 **and managerial support and resources to individuals, including support and resources related**
2 **to:**

3 **(A) Water supply reliability.**

4 **(B) Source and treated water quality.**

5 **(C) Utility board and operations management.**

6 **(D) Infrastructure.**

7 **(E) Droughts, floods and earthquakes.**

8 **(F) Funding, financial stability and water rates.**

9 **(G) Regulations and safe drinking water standards.**

10 **(H) Applying for and managing funds associated with state and federal funding programs.**

11 **(I) Assessing and supporting opportunities for emergency interties, system consolidation**
12 **and regionalization.**

13 **(c) Hire and employ one training specialist and two technical assistance providers to**
14 **provide support and resources to address the needs and vulnerabilities of small and very**
15 **small community water systems in this state.**

16 **(d) Consult with the Oregon Health Authority, the Department of Environmental Quality,**
17 **the Water Resources Department, county environmental health departments and county**
18 **emergency managers in designing the parameters of the study described in paragraph (a) of**
19 **this subsection.**

20 **(e) Submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 to the interim committees**
21 **of the Legislative Assembly related to water no later than December 31, 2024.**

22 **(2) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall distribute moneys to the**
23 **Oregon Association of Water Utilities for the purposes of carrying out subsection (1) of this**
24 **section.**

25 **(3) The Oregon Health Authority, the Department of Environmental Quality and the**
26 **Water Resources Department shall cooperate with the Oregon Association of Water Utilities,**
27 **and provide to the association any data or information requested by the association, in im-**
28 **plementing this section.**

29 **SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.**

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