

House Bill 3321

Sponsored by Representatives OWENS, HELM, EVANS, MARSH; 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 **as introduced**.

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.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to community water systems.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall study the needs and vulnerabilities**
5 **of county-regulated small community water systems, including but not limited to the fol-**
6 **lowing topics:**

7 (a) **Water supply reliability.**

8 (b) **Source and treated water quality.**

9 (c) **Utility board and operations management.**

10 (d) **Infrastructure.**

11 (e) **Droughts, floods and earthquakes.**

12 (f) **Water rates, funding and financial stability.**

13 (g) **Regulations and safe drinking water standards.**

14 (2) **The authority shall coordinate and consult with county environmental health agencies**
15 **on the study and may provide funding to county governments to assist with the study.**

16 (3) **The authority shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may**
17 **include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative As-**
18 **sembly related to water no later than December 31, 2024.**

19 **SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
20 **ated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the biennium beginning July**
21 **1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,000,000, for distribution to the Oregon**
22 **Association of Water Utilities for purposes of implementing section 3 of this 2023 Act.**

23 **SECTION 3. Moneys distributed to the Oregon Association of Water Utilities by the**
24 **Oregon Department of Administrative Services under section 2 of this 2023 Act shall be ex-**
25 **pende to:**

26 (1) **Design and construct a water utility training center to provide technical, financial and**
27 **managerial support and resources to individuals, including support and resources related to:**

28 (a) **Water supply reliability.**

29 (b) **Source and treated water quality.**

30 (c) **Utility board and operations management.**

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 **(d) Infrastructure.**
- 2 **(e) Droughts, floods and earthquakes.**
- 3 **(f) Water rates, funding and financial stability.**
- 4 **(g) Regulations and safe drinking water standards.**
- 5 **(2) Hire and employ one training specialist and one technical assistance provider to pro-**
- 6 **vide the support and resources described in subsection (1) of this section.**
- 7 **SECTION 4.** **Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.**

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