

## HB 3195—Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligibility

This concept would expand eligibility under ORS 468.423(4) to include a broader range of potential entities that may apply for and be a recipient of Clean Water State Revolving Fund loans.

Oregon law defines eligible recipients for Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan program funding in a manner that is more restrictive than what is allowable under federal CWSRF program regulations. The Oregon definition of eligible recipient excludes some public agencies, such as domestic water supply districts, and does not include other entities that may be interested in pursuing CWSRF eligible projects. The exclusion of some entities, which may otherwise have a strong interest in accessing these funds, may be hindering otherwise viable projects for drinking water protection.

## **Proposed Solution**

This concept would seek to broaden the range of entities that may apply for CWSRF loans, as defined under ORS 468.423(4). A key objective of the concept would be to provide public water systems (not just those with wastewater system authority) the ability to access CWSRF nonpoint source loan options for drinking water protection projects like watershed and source water protection projects, restoration, easements, and fee title land acquisition.

Extending CWSRF opportunities to a broader range of potential recipients could benefit a range of underserved and under-resourced communities in Oregon. Water supply districts tend to provide services to smaller, sometimes unincorporated areas that may have limited access to funding and resources to carry out projects that may have water quality benefits.

## **Anticipated Fiscal Impact/POP Information**

Not Applicable

Contact: Rian Hooff Phone: 971-255-7267

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