

## HB 3121 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

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

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/12, 2/24

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates \$2.5 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to contract with the Oregon Association of Water Utilities to provide technical assistance, develop a water utility training center, and hire three staff to support small and very small community water systems in Oregon.

#### Detailed Analysis

##### I. Provisions

Requires the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to enter into a contract with the Oregon Association of Water Utilities (the Association) to carry out the following:

- **Provide technical assistance** to small and very small community water systems, either directly or through a third-party provider, to address their specific needs and vulnerabilities.
- Develop or acquire equipment for a **water utility training center** that offers technical, financial, and managerial support tailored to small and very small community water systems.
- **Employ three staff members** who will provide support and resources to address the needs and vulnerabilities of small and very small community water systems in Oregon.

##### II. Appropriations

- Allocates \$2.5 million in General Fund money to DAS, and requires DAS distribute these funds to the Association for implementation.

##### III. Operative Date and Sunset

- Declares an emergency, effective on passage.
- Sunsets the program January 2, 2027.

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

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

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

The Safe Drinking Water Act defines small systems as public water systems that serve 10,000 or fewer people. Very small water systems are defined by rule([OAR 333-061-0020\(91\)](#)) and serve between four and 14 service connections. These systems are exempt from certain rule requirements and make up 24 percent of Oregon's public water systems.