

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass with amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure. (Printed B-Engrossed)
<b>Vote:</b>	3 - 2 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Hass, Prozanski, Dingfelder
<b>Nays:</b>	Olsen, Thomsen
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Beth Patrino, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	5/19, 5/24

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Eliminates fee for renewal of instream water rights leases except where applicant receives compensation for lease or, prior to lease expiration, applicant permanently withdraws from all beneficial use activities or transfers ownership of appurtenant property. Extends sunset date on split season lease statute to 2021.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Reasons water right holders lease water for instream use
- Split season lease option

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Deletes five year limit on instream leases and lease renewals.

**BACKGROUND:** Beneficial use is the reasonably efficient use of water without waste for a purpose consistent with the laws, rules, and best interests of the people of Oregon. Examples of types of beneficial uses include irrigation, fish and aquatic life, industrial and municipal uses, recreation, storage, and pollution control. In 1987, the Legislative Assembly added instream water rights as a beneficial use to support instream flows, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, and pollution abatement. Since passage of that legislation, about 1,400 instream water rights have been established. A water right holder may lease his right for instream use. House Bill 2983 B would eliminate the fee for lease renewals under some circumstances.