

B-Engrossed
House Bill 3623

Ordered by the House June 21
Including House Amendments dated April 27 and June 21

Sponsored by Representative WHISNANT; Representatives CONGER, MCLANE

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.

Postpones requirement that Water Resources Commission repeal certain rules regarding ground water mitigation in Deschutes Basin ground water study area.

Directs Water Resources Department to periodically review program for Deschutes Basin ground water study area and to report to Legislative Assembly every five years.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Deschutes Basin ground water study area; creating new provisions; amending section
3 5, chapter 669, Oregon Laws 2005; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 5, chapter 669, Oregon Laws 2005, is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 5.** (1) The Water Resources Commission shall repeal the rules referred to in section 2 [*of*
7 *this 2005 Act*], **chapter 669, Oregon Laws 2005**, on January 2, [*2014*] **2029**.

8 (2) Ground water permits and mitigation projects approved before the repeal remain valid and
9 effective.

10 **SECTION 2.** (1) As used in this section, "Deschutes Basin ground water study area" has
11 the meaning given that term in ORS 540.531.

12 (2) **The Water Resources Department shall periodically review the department program**
13 **for the Deschutes Basin ground water study area. The review shall include, but need not be**
14 **limited to, the identification of regulatory and statutory changes that may improve the pro-**
15 **gram in order to address and mitigate injury to existing water rights and spring systems and**
16 **to offset measurable reductions of scenic waterway flows.**

17 (3) **The department shall report to the Legislative Assembly every five years on outcomes**
18 **of the department program for the Deschutes Basin ground water study area. The report**
19 **shall include, but need not be limited to, program impacts on other users of the Deschutes**
20 **River Basin, the potential timing of mitigation, identification of zones of impact, a review**
21 **of impacts on the headwaters of the Metolius River and other key reaches of the Metolius**
22 **River system, the potential timing of federal, state and local storage improvements and other**
23 **issues identified by stakeholders.**

24 **SECTION 3.** **This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
25 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect**
26 **July 1, 2011.**

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.

