

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Requires Water Resources Department to determine percentage of department operating costs attributable to in-stream water rights program. Requires department to submit report including proposals for legislation to require participating state agencies to pay department operating costs for in-stream water rights program and proposals to adjust statutory fees to equal other department operating costs.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to Water Resources Department program costs.

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

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, “in-stream water rights program costs” means all Water Resources Department expenses attributable to exercising the duties, functions and powers of the department to administer and enforce ORS 537.332 to 537.360.

(2) The Water Resources Department shall conduct a study to determine the percentage of department operating costs that are in-stream water rights program costs. The department shall report the results of the study to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly dealing with natural resources on or before October 1, 2014.

(3) The report made under subsection (2) of this section must include specific department proposals for legislation to ensure that state agencies that request, or that have successfully requested, the department to issue an in-stream water right under ORS 537.341 make proportional payments to the department that on a biennial basis equal the in-stream water rights program costs. The proposals shall

1 also include any adjustments to the fees established in ORS 536.050
2 that are reasonably calculated to cause the amount received from the
3 fees to equal the department operating costs that are not in-stream
4 water rights program costs. For purposes of this subsection, fees paid
5 by water right holders in connection with leases for in-stream use are
6 fees established in ORS 536.050.

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