

**Kate Brown**  
**Governor**



## **Briefing Memo**

**Subject:** HB 2250, Oregon Environmental Protection Act

**This Memo Prepared For:** House Committee on Energy and Environment

**This Memo Prepared By:** Governor Kate Brown's Natural Resources Office

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**Bill Summary:** Requires certain state agencies to regularly assess and take action on proposed and final changes to federal environment laws to determine whether changes are significantly less protective of public health, environment or natural resources than standards and requirements contained in those federal environmental laws, as in effect on January 19, 2017.

### **Impacted Natural Resource Agencies**

1. Department of Environmental Quality
2. Department of State Lands
3. Oregon Health Authority
4. Department of Agriculture

### **Federal Environment Laws**

1. Clean Air Act
2. Safe Drinking Water Act
3. Water Pollution Control Act

### **Implementation**

“Baseline federal standards” means the standards or requirements for the relevant federal environmental protection laws that were in effect on January 19, 2017. Each agency will determine whether the proposed or final changes to a federal standard are significantly less protective than the baseline federal standard.

The DEQ must notify the Environmental Quality Commission and recommend action to adopt standards that are at least as protective as baseline federal standards. All other natural resource agencies will implement standards as appropriate and necessary under their authority. This Act does not prevent agencies from adopting stricter standards than the baseline federal standards.