SB 27 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to adopt by rule a schedule of fees to be assessed on water suppliers to partially defray the costs of surveying, investigating, and remedying drinking water system safety. Requires fee schedule to be graduated based on the size and type of water system. Limits fee increases to once per calendar year according to prescribed limits.

REVENUE:May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.FISCAL:May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Clarifies statutory duties for which fees apply. Clarifies annual fee cap.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon Drinking Water Services (DWS) administers and enforces drinking water quality standards for Oregon's 3,400 public water systems. DWS promotes voluntary compliance with state and federal drinking water standards, including the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). DWS emphasizes prevention of contamination through source water protection, provides technical assistance to water systems, and provides water system operator training.

Senate Bill 27 revises DWS' statutory fee authority to recover sanitary survey costs with authority to charge an annual regulatory fee based on water system size and type.