

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Declares harmful algal blooms to be menace to public health and welfare. Directs Oregon Health Authority to identify water sources susceptible to harmful algal blooms, monitor and test susceptible waters and develop protocol for advisory alerts.

Directs Department of Environmental Quality to develop response strategy to harmful algal blooms, produce and maintain relevant data, identify sources of pollutants and develop strategies to reduce pollutants.

Appropriates moneys to Department of Environmental Quality for purpose of carrying out duties under Act.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16

Relating to water quality.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 448.119 to 448.285.

SECTION 2. (1) The Legislative Assembly finds and declares harmful algal blooms to be a threat to safe drinking water supplies and a menace to public health and welfare.

(2) The Oregon Health Authority, in coordination with the Department of Environmental Quality as further provided for in section 4 of this 2019 Act, shall:

(a) Determine and identify water sources that are susceptible to harmful algal blooms or that are downstream of or influenced by water sources that are susceptible to harmful algal blooms.

(b) Develop a system for the regular monitoring and testing of water sources determined to be susceptible to harmful algal blooms or

1 that are downstream of or influenced by water sources that are sus-
2 ceptible to harmful algal blooms.

3 (c) Prioritize monitoring of water sources that are susceptible to
4 harmful algal blooms and that are:

5 (A) Sources of domestic and municipal drinking water; or

6 (B) Bodies of water accessed by the public for recreational use.

7 (d) Develop a protocol for issuing hazard advisory alerts to the
8 public in the occurrence of a harmful algal bloom.

9 **SECTION 3.** Section 4 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part
10 of ORS chapter 468B.

11 **SECTION 4.** The Department of Environmental Quality, in coordi-
12 nation with the Oregon Health Authority, shall:

13 (1) Develop and maintain a coordinated state agency harmful algal
14 bloom response monitoring and response strategy.

15 (2) Produce timely and high-quality data that allow the Oregon
16 Health Authority to determine the level of risk of harm or injury to
17 the public health.

18 (3) Maintain a publicly accessible clearinghouse of all data related
19 to harmful algal blooms.

20 (4) Identify sources of pollutants that contribute to the occurrences
21 of harmful algal blooms.

22 (5) Develop strategies for reducing pollutants that contribute to the
23 occurrences of harmful algal blooms and the frequency and severity
24 of harmful algal blooms.

25 (6) Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of strategies imple-
26 mented for reducing pollutants that contribute to the occurrences of
27 harmful algal blooms.

28 **SECTION 5.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-
29 ation, there is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
30 Quality, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the General
31 Fund, the amount of \$983,919, which may be expended for carrying out

1 **the provisions of section 4 of this 2019 Act.**

2
