

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 2143

Relating to annual fees for hydroelectric projects

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Taylor

HB 2143 increases the annual fees on hydroelectric projects. The bill also requires that a Fee Review Panel convene at least every eight years to adjust the fee based on programmatic need of the supported agencies and as the impacted agencies' hydroelectric project portfolio changes. The measure provides a two-year exemption for the fee increase on certain qualifying larger projects.

The Water Resource Department estimates the fee increase will result in an additional \$759,344 Other Funds in the 2021 biennium. The fee revenue is collected by the Water Resources Department, retaining roughly 9% of the revenue, the remaining funds are transferred: 25% to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and 66% to the Department of Environmental Quality.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends HB 2143 be reported out do pass.