

# HB 3273: Oregon Dry Cleaner Program Sunset

## Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

February 27, 2023

# Dry Cleaner Program Overview

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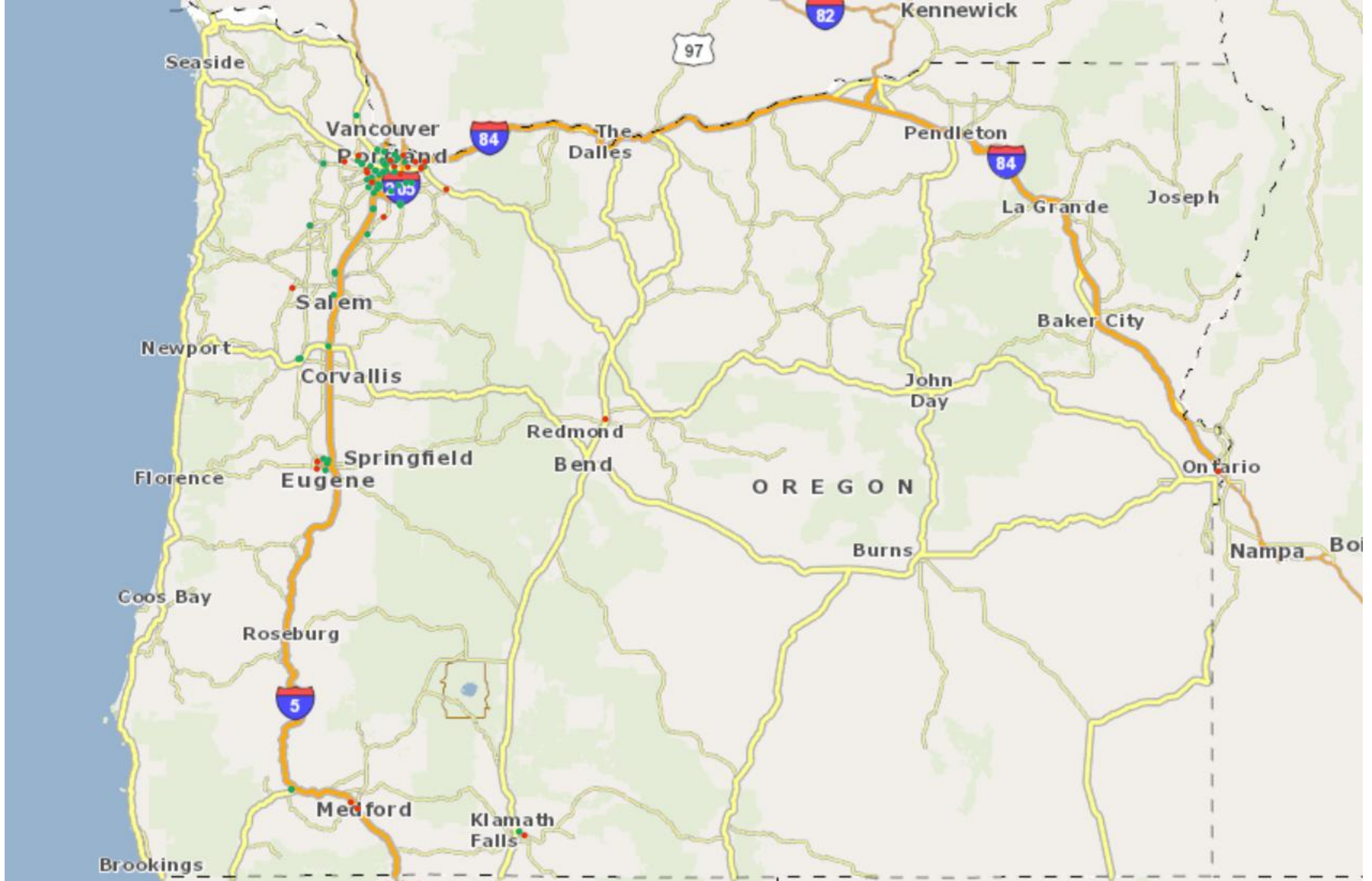
Created by the Oregon Legislature in 1995, with the purpose of:

- Creating a \$1 million cleanup fund paid for solely by the industry
- Exempting dry cleaning owners and operators from cleanup liability
- Ensuring the cleanup of contamination resulting from dry cleaning

# Dry Cleaner Program Overview, cont.

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- Fees paid annually into Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Account
- Fee amounts set in statute, used for:
  - Program administration
  - Compliance inspections
  - Environmental cleanups
- Statute requires waste minimization to:
  - Prevent future contamination and reduce future cleanups
  - Be eligible for a cleanup



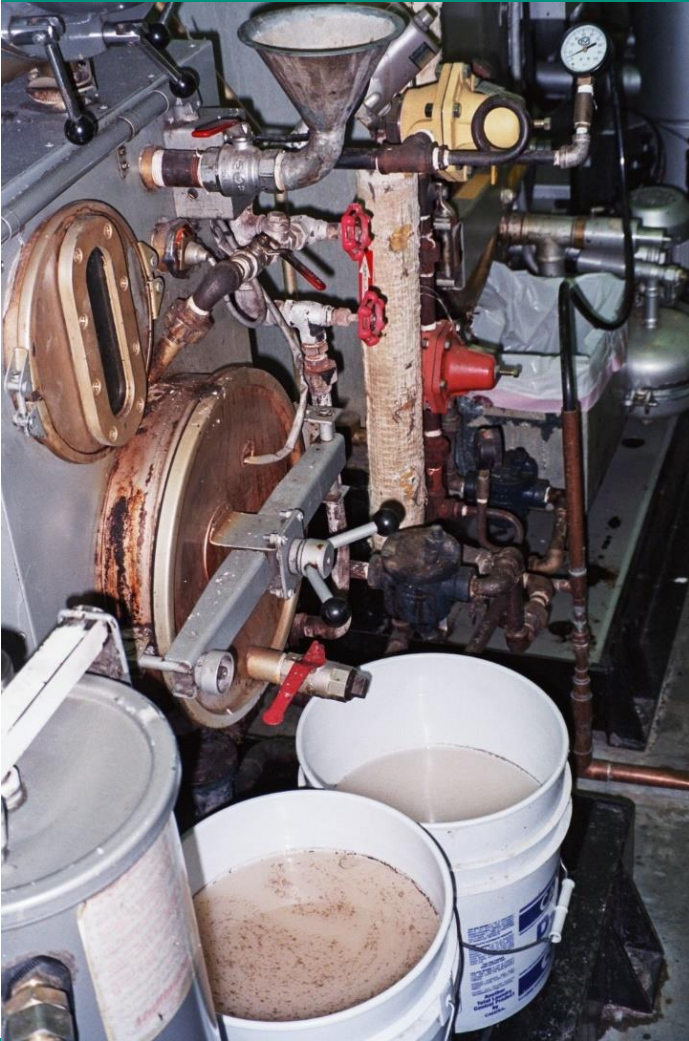
# Dry Cleaner Program Activities

Since 1995:

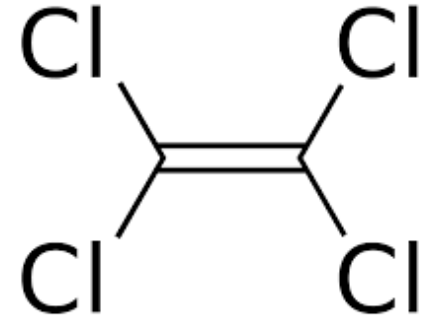
- Compliance inspections: > 400
- Cleanups: > 50
- Cost: > \$8.4 million



# Perc and Environmental Cleanups

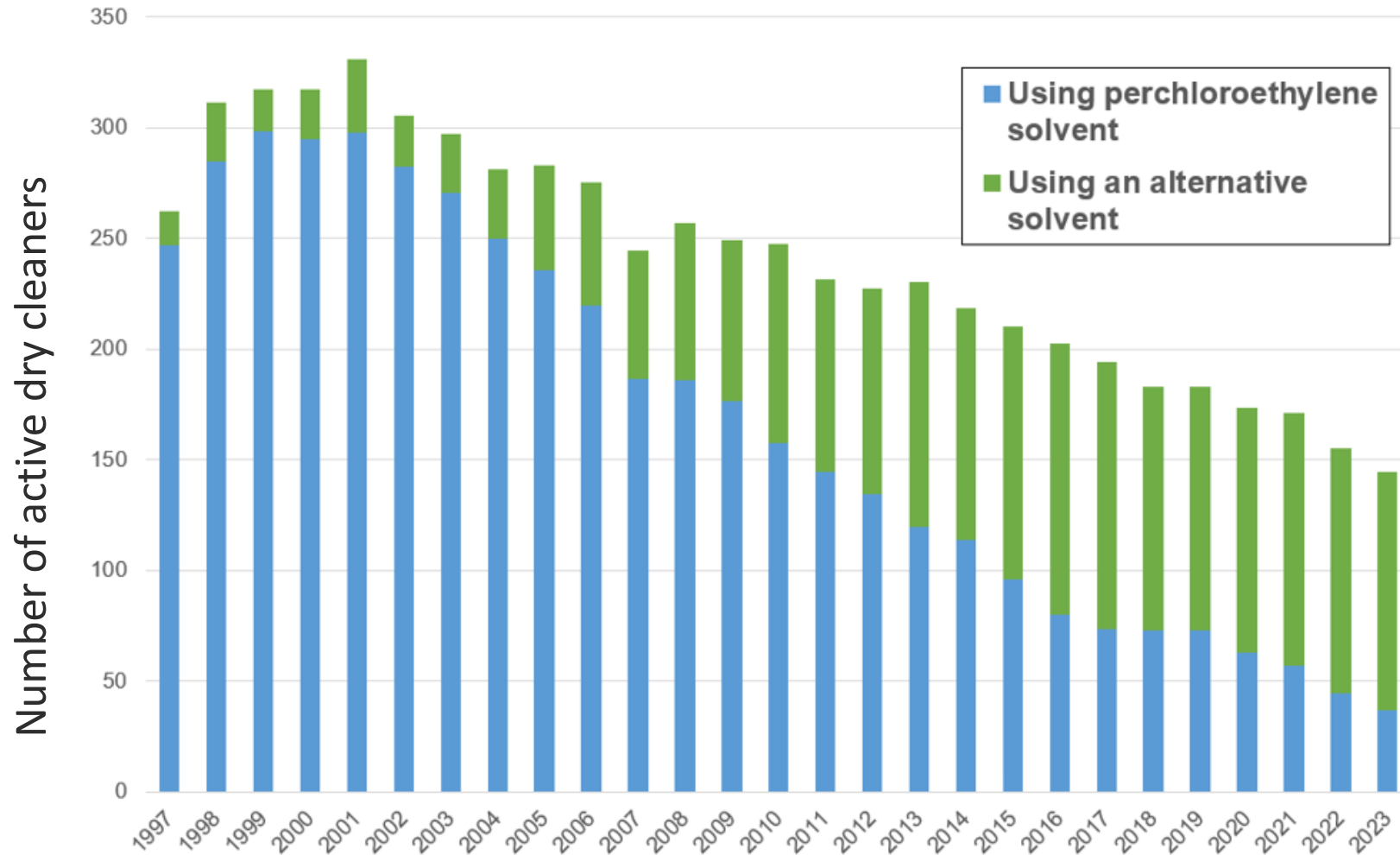


Perchloroethylene or perc

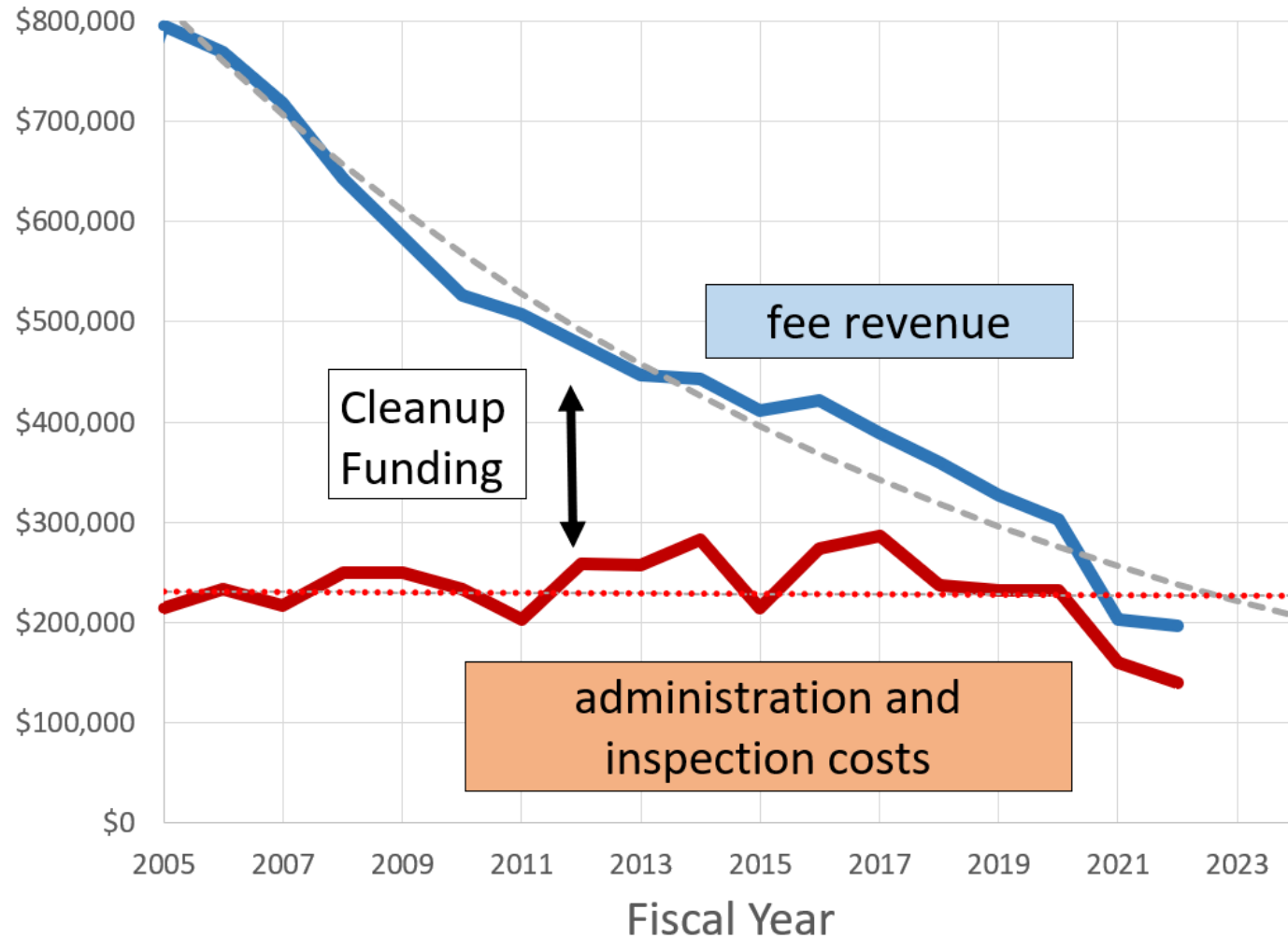


- Widely used since 1940s
- Highly toxic
- Difficult and expensive to clean up

# Number Of Dry Cleaners in Oregon



# Program Revenue and Expenses





# Why Sunset the Program?

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- Number of dry cleaning facilities continues to decline
- Number of dry cleaning facilities using perc continues to decline
- Program is no longer financially viable
- Raising fees not a sustainable option

# HB 3273

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## Repeal Dry Cleaner Program

- End program: January 1, 2024

## Prohibit use of perc and n-propyl bromide for dry cleaning

- Prohibition effective: January 1, 2027

# Passage of HB 3273: Outcome

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## Program sunset:

- Dry Cleaners no longer required to pay annual fees
- Cleanup liability consistent with other industries and chemicals

## Solvent prohibition:

- Reduced risk of negative impacts to human health and the environment
- Reduced risk of future cleanups