

**HB 3187 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Natural Resources**

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**Prepared By:** Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 4/19

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Makes individuals eligible to apply for certification as water right examiners if they have been employed by an irrigation district, drainage district, water improvement district, or water control district for seven or more years and have seven or more years of relevant technical experience conducting similar work.

*FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact*

REVENUE: No revenue impact

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 46; Nays, 8

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Water right transactions and transfers are processed by the Oregon Water Resource Department (OWRD) and approved by certified water right examiners (CWREs). The CWRE license can be obtained from the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying after successful completion of the CWRE exam administered by OWRD. Currently, registration for the CWRE exam is open to registered geologists, professional engineers, and land surveyors. As of this year, there are 217 CWREs in Oregon, 30 percent of which are located within the Portland metro area.

House Bill 3187 A makes individuals eligible to apply for certification as water right examiners if they have been employed by an irrigation district, drainage district, water improvement district, or water control district for seven or more years and have seven or more years of relevant technical experience conducting similar work.