

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: HB 3163 - A**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Establishes Place-Based Water Planning Fund.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Department of Land Conservation and Development, Water Resources Department, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Agriculture

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

HB 3163 - A establishes the Place-Based Water Planning Fund, which is continuously appropriated to the Water Resources Department (WRD). WRD may use funds to award grants to fund the costs of actions supporting place-based integrated water resources planning, or be used by WRD to further place-based integrated water resources planning by entering into agreements or contracting for efforts related to interagency coordination; situation assessments; collection or development of data, data inventories or other technical information necessary for planning; technical assistance; development of guidelines and best practices; providing opportunities for public participation; development or provision of training and learning opportunities; holding events and gatherings; evaluations to identify lessons learned and areas for improvement; consultation with Indian tribes; or other actions in support of place-based integrated water resources planning that benefit a specific area in this state or the state as a whole. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

This measure does not appropriate any moneys for the Place-Based Water Planning Fund so the overall fiscal impact of the measure is indeterminate at this time, as it is not clear what the scope of this program will be.

The measure requires that before issuing funding, WRD is to consult with the Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Land Conservation and Development, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Oregon Department of Agriculture to understand agency capacity to participate in place-based integrated water resources planning. These agencies are also to be consulted when WRD is conducting rulemaking, and are to provide information and assistance to, and enter into contracts or agreements with, a person, public body, Indian tribe or nonprofit organization to facilitate implementation. The depth of involvement by these agencies is uncertain at this time, but agencies may have a fiscal impact depending on the scope of the program and agency involvement.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for further consideration of its budgetary impact.