

House Bill 2863

Sponsored by Representative EVANS (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes Oregon Desalination Authority. Directs authority to study development and maintenance of desalination facilities in state.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to desalination; and prescribing an effective date.

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

ESTABLISHING THE OREGON DESALINATION AUTHORITY

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7 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Desalination Authority is established.**

8 **(2) The authority shall study and develop techniques for converting saline water into**
9 **fresh water that can be used for drinking water, irrigation or other human needs.**

10 **(3) The authority may establish desalination facilities in this state, subject to the avail-**
11 **ability of moneys appropriated to the authority for that purpose.**

DIRECTOR

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15 **SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Desalination Authority is under the supervision and control**
16 **of a director, who is responsible for the performance of the duties, functions and powers of**
17 **the authority.**

18 **(2) The Governor shall appoint the Director of the Oregon Desalination Authority, who**
19 **holds office at the pleasure of the Governor.**

20 **(3) The appointment of the director is subject to confirmation by the Senate in the**
21 **manner prescribed in ORS 171.562 and 171.565.**

22 **(4) The director shall be paid a salary as provided by law or, if not so provided, as pre-**
23 **scribed by the Governor.**

24 **(5) Subject to the approval of the Governor, the director may organize and reorganize the**
25 **administrative structure of the authority as the director considers appropriate to properly**
26 **conduct the work of the authority.**

27 **(6) The director may divide the functions of the authority into administrative divisions.**
28 **Subject to the approval of the Governor, the director may appoint an individual to administer**
29 **each division. The administrator of each division serves at the pleasure of the director and**
30 **is not subject to the provisions of ORS chapter 240. Each individual appointed under this**
31 **subsection must be well qualified by technical training and experience in the functions to be**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 performed by the individual.

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3 **EMPLOYEES**

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5 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Director of the Oregon Desalination Authority shall, by written order
6 filed with the Secretary of State, appoint a deputy director. The deputy director serves at
7 the pleasure of the director, has authority to act for the director in the absence of the di-
8 rector and is subject to the control of the director at all times.

9 (2) Subject to any applicable provisions of ORS chapter 240, the director shall appoint all
10 subordinate officers and employees of the Oregon Desalination Authority, prescribe their
11 duties and fix their compensation.

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13 **GENERAL AUTHORITY TO ADOPT RULES**

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15 **SECTION 4.** In accordance with the provisions of ORS chapter 183, the Oregon
16 Desalination Authority may adopt rules for the administration of the laws that the Oregon
17 Desalination Authority is charged with administering.

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19 **ADVISORY AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEES**

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21 **SECTION 5.** (1) To aid and advise the Director of the Oregon Desalination Authority in
22 the performance of the functions of the Oregon Desalination Authority, the director may
23 establish any advisory or technical committee the director considers necessary. The com-
24 mittees may be continuing or temporary. The director shall determine the representation,
25 membership, terms and organization of the committees and shall appoint the members of the
26 committees. The director shall be an ex officio member of each committee.

27 (2) Members of the committees are not entitled to compensation but, in the discretion
28 of the director, may be reimbursed from funds available to the authority for actual and
29 necessary travel and other expenses incurred by the members in the performance of official
30 duties in the manner and amount provided in ORS 292.495.

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32 **STUDY**

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34 **SECTION 6.** (1) The Oregon Desalination Authority shall study the development and
35 maintenance of a statewide system of desalination facilities that includes:

36 (a) At least four major desalination facilities located along the Oregon coast; and

37 (b) Pipelines or other conveyances to distribute water from desalination facilities to areas
38 where additional water resources are urgently needed.

39 (2) The authority shall submit its findings in a report in the manner provided by ORS
40 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the
41 Legislative Assembly related to water no later than June 30, 2025.

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43 **APPROPRIATION**

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45 **SECTION 7.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there are appro-

1 **priated to the Oregon Desalination Authority, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out**
2 **of the General Fund, the following amounts for the following purposes:**

3 (1) \$_____ for the establishment of the Oregon Desalination Authority pursuant to
4 sections 1 to 5 of this 2023 Act.

5 (2) \$_____ to carry out section 6 of this 2023 Act.

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7 **UNIT CAPTIONS**

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9 **SECTION 8. The unit captions used in this 2023 Act are provided only for the convenience**
10 **of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any leg-**
11 **islative intent in the enactment of this 2023 Act.**

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13 **EFFECTIVE DATE**

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15 **SECTION 9. This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023**
16 **regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

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