

A-Engrossed House Bill 3130

Ordered by the House March 6
Including House Amendments dated March 6

Sponsored by Representatives OWENS, HELM; Representative GAMBIA, Senator FINDLEY

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.

Appropriates moneys to Water Resources Department to fund staff position[, *or contract for services, related to voluntary agreements among ground water users from same reservoir*] **and allocate moneys for purposes related to voluntary agreements among ground water users in Greater Harney Valley Groundwater Area of Concern.**

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to voluntary agreements among ground water users; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Water Resources Department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____, which shall be expended for:

(1) Funding a staff position at the department; and

(2) Allocating moneys to an entity located within Harney County, jointly agreed to by the department and Harney County Court, for contracting with a qualified entity to:

(a) Advise ground water users in the Greater Harney Valley Groundwater Area of Concern, and other interested stakeholders that work on ground water management in the Greater Harney Valley Groundwater Area of Concern, concerning voluntary agreements among ground water users from the same ground water reservoir, as described in ORS 537.745;

(b) Assess the opportunities and limitations of using the voluntary agreements in the Greater Harney Valley Groundwater Area of Concern; and

(c) Assist ground water users in the Greater Harney Valley Groundwater Area of Concern with developing the voluntary agreements.

SECTION 2. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.

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.