

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3231

Ordered by the House March 23
Including House Amendments dated March 23

Sponsored by Representatives HELM, OWENS, LEVY B; Representatives GAMBA, HARTMAN, MARSH

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.

Directs Department of Environmental Quality, in consultation with Water Resources Department, to develop recommendations and other resources to expand beneficial water reuse or recycled water programs or projects in state.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the development of resources to improve water reuse implementation in Oregon; and
3 prescribing an effective date.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Environmental Quality, in consultation with the**
6 **Water Resources Department and other relevant state agencies and interested parties, shall**
7 **address barriers to, and develop technical assistance resources to support, expanded benefi-**
8 **cial water reuse or recycled water programs and projects within this state.**

9 **(2) In carrying out the objectives of this section, the Department of Environmental**
10 **Quality shall:**

11 **(a) Characterize recycled water and beneficial land application project types that are**
12 **priorities to support water quality, water supply or use and habitat or ecosystem needs in**
13 **this state;**

14 **(b) Identify regulatory and other impediments to expanding water reuse;**

15 **(c) Identify environmentally protective approaches successfully employed by other states**
16 **with robust water reuse programs that may be applicable to Oregon;**

17 **(d) Identify potential regulatory changes, including but not limited to changes to internal**
18 **guidance, administrative rules or statutes needed to remove impediments, and propose an**
19 **implementation schedule for enacting proposed changes; and**

20 **(e) Develop technical assistance guidance, or other resources, for local jurisdictions and**
21 **industries to seek permitting and development of recycled water and other beneficial land**
22 **application programs that achieve the objectives of this section.**

23 **(3) The department shall submit a progress report on the resources developed under this**
24 **section in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, to the interim committees of the Legislative**
25 **Assembly related to water no later than December 31, 2023.**

26 **(4) The department shall submit a final report, including completed resources developed**
27 **under this section, in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, to the interim committees of the**

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 Legislative Assembly related to water no later than September 15, 2024. The department
2 shall, at a minimum, identify in the report under this subsection:

3 (a) Changes that agencies can make or have completed to internal policies, guidance and
4 processes;

5 (b) Recommended changes that require an agency to amend administrative rules or adopt
6 new administrative rules;

7 (c) Recommended changes that would require the Legislative Assembly to create new law
8 or amend existing law;

9 (d) Programmatic needs to remove impediments to water reuse and beneficial land ap-
10 plication expansion and to support access to and acceleration of water reuse and beneficial
11 land application projects; and

12 (e) Technical assistance resources and incentives that would support jurisdictions in
13 evaluating and pursuing reuse and beneficial land application projects.

14 **SECTION 2.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
15 ated to the Department of Environmental Quality, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023,
16 out of the General Fund, the amount of \$340,000, which may be expended for the purpose of
17 carrying out the provisions of section 1 of this 2023 Act.

18 **SECTION 3.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
19 ated to the Water Resources Department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the
20 General Fund, the amount of \$100,000, which may be expended for the purpose of carrying
21 out the provisions of section 1 of this 2023 Act.

22 **SECTION 4.** Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.

23 **SECTION 5.** This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023
24 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.
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