

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 956

Ordered by the Senate April 10
Including Senate Amendments dated April 10

Sponsored by Senator HANSELL, Representative LEVY B; Senators MANNING JR, WAGNER

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.

Instructs Water Resources [*Commission*] **Department** to take certain actions related to Walla Walla Water 2050 Strategic Plan.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Walla Walla River Basin.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Water Resources Department shall collaborate with the Confeder-**
5 **ated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the State of Washington to implement**
6 **and guide cooperative, bistate water management in the Walla Walla River Basin under the**
7 **Walla Walla Water 2050 Strategic Plan, under advice from a Walla Walla River Basin advi-**
8 **sory committee consisting of representatives from a broad range of interests, including ag-**
9 **ricultural, environmental and other stakeholders and federal, tribal, state and local**
10 **governments.**

11 **(2) The Legislative Assembly declares that it is the intent of this 2023 Act that:**

12 **(a) This state shall share in the cost of implementing the Walla Walla Water 2050 Stra-**
13 **tegic Plan.**

14 **(b) At least one-half of the total costs of implementing the Walla Walla Water 2050**
15 **Strategic Plan will be funded through federal, private and other nonstate sources, including**
16 **funding from private entities that benefit from projects under the Walla Walla Water 2050**
17 **Strategic Plan.**

18 **(3) The department shall implement the Walla Walla Water 2050 Strategic Plan as an**
19 **integrated water resources approach that invites coordination among this state and the**
20 **State of Washington, affected federally recognized Indian tribes, agencies and community**
21 **stakeholders, including stakeholders concerned with agriculture, the environment and busi-**
22 **ness.**

23 **(4) In developing water supply solutions in the Walla Walla River Basin, the department**
24 **shall use an integrated water resources management approach that provides concurrent**
25 **water supply benefits to in-stream, out-of-stream and ground water uses and addresses a**
26 **variety of water resource and ecosystem challenges affecting fish passage, habitat functions**
27 **and agricultural, municipal, industrial and domestic water supply, consistent with the Walla**
28 **Walla Water 2050 Strategic Plan.**

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 **(5) In consultation with affected federally recognized Indian tribes, and in cooperation**
2 **with the State of Washington, the department shall assess the development of a legal and**
3 **regulatory framework, coordinated between this state and the State of Washington, for the**
4 **allocation, distribution and management of developed water resources.**

5 **(6) Agencies, as defined in ORS 183.310, in undertaking the agencies' programs or using**
6 **moneys appropriated by the Legislative Assembly, may, consistent with all other statutory**
7 **limitations or direction concerning the agencies' programs or use of the moneys, fund the**
8 **study, design, engineering and construction of projects implementing the Walla Walla Water**
9 **2050 Strategic Plan that are located wholly or partially in the State of Washington if the**
10 **projects:**

11 **(a) Benefit in-stream, out-of-stream or ground water demands in this state; and**

12 **(b) Are consistent with the objectives of the Walla Walla Water 2050 Strategic Plan.**

13 **SECTION 2.** **(1) On or before June 30, 2025, the Water Resources Department shall sub-**
14 **mit a report, in the manner prescribed in ORS 192.245, to a committee or interim committee**
15 **of the Legislative Assembly related to water that contains recommendations for a legal and**
16 **regulatory framework to promote equitable allocation, distribution and management of de-**
17 **veloped water resources and water supplies resulting from projects undertaken under the**
18 **Walla Walla Water 2050 Strategic Plan.**

19 **(2) In coordination with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and**
20 **the State of Washington, the department shall report three times in 2024, and three times**
21 **in 2025 before the date specified in subsection (1) of this section, to the Walla Walla River**
22 **Basin advisory committee described in section 1 (1) of this 2023 Act on the development of**
23 **a legal and regulatory framework, coordinated between this state and the State of**
24 **Washington, for the allocation, distribution and management of developed water resources,**
25 **as described in section 1 (5) of this 2023 Act.**

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