

**SB 956 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Energy and Environment**

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**Prepared By:** Beth Reiley, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/12

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure appropriates \$10 million to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services from the General Fund, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, for the purpose of providing a grant to Heard Farms to expand wastewater treatment infrastructure. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Wastewater infrastructure is a system that collects, treats, and disposes of used water from homes, businesses, and industries to protect public health and the environment. It includes a network of sewer pipes, pumping stations, and treatment plants designed to remove contaminants before releasing treated water back into natural water bodies or repurposing it for reuse. Modern wastewater treatment involves physical, chemical, and biological processes to remove solids, nutrients, and harmful microorganisms. Oregon wastewater treatment regulations establish requirements for the construction, alteration, repair, operation, and maintenance of onsite wastewater treatment systems. These rules are governed by Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 340-71 and 340-73 and Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 454 and 468B2.