



Legislative Fiscal Office  
 83<sup>rd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly  
 2025 Regular Session

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 Reviewed by: Kim To  
 Date: March 6, 2025

**Bill Title:** Relating to community water systems; declaring an emergency.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:** Department of Administrative Services

**Summary of Fiscal Impact**

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Administrative Services	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	-	-
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ 2,500,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,500,000</b>	-	-

  

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Administrative Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	-	-

**Measure Description**

The measure appropriates \$2.5 million General Fund to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for distribution to the Oregon Association of Water Utilities (OAWU). OAWU will use the funds to provide technical assistance or contract with a third party to support small and very small community water systems. OAWU will establish a water utility training center for technical, financial, and managerial support and hire three staff to assist small and very small community water systems statewide.

**Fiscal Analysis**

The fiscal impact of this measure is \$2.5 million General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium. There are no additional administrative costs for DAS to transfer these funds to the Oregon Association of Water Utilities. Continued funding for OAWU in future biennia is not assumed.

The measure only authorizes DAS to distribute moneys as pass through to OAWU. The Oregon Association of Water Utilities is a nonprofit organization and its budget and performance are not subject to executive branch review, or approval or modification by the Legislative Assembly. The measure is silent on the terms and conditions for distribution and oversight of funds. Therefore, it is assumed the legislative intention is for DAS to use existing grantmaking or procurement contracts available to the agency for disbursement of funds, which provides only limited programmatic and financial monitoring authority.

Furthermore, the measure allows OAWU to use the appropriated funds to contract with a third party to provide technical assistance, construct and equip a water utility training center, and hire three staff members to support small and very small community water systems. The measure does not specify an administrative cost allocation.

**Relevant Dates**

DAS will distribute funds to OAWU for technical assistance, a water utility training center, and staffing to support small and very small community water systems, with these provisions set to repeal on January 2, 2027.

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.