



Legislative Fiscal Office
83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to fees concerning wells; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Water Resources Department

Summary of Fiscal Impact

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal - see explanatory analysis.

Summary of Revenue Impact

| Agency -- Fund Type | 2025-27 Biennium | 2027-29 Biennium |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Water Resources Department -- Other Funds | \$ 920,000 | \$ 920,000 |
| Total Revenue Impact | \$ 920,000 | \$ 920,000 |

Measure Description

The measure increases various fees administered by the Water Resources Department (WRD) related to well construction, alteration, abandonment, and conversion. The measure raises the start card fee for new well construction and modifications, increases the examination and licensing fees for water well constructors, and raises the permit fee for landowners constructing wells on their own property. The measure also increases fees for Department-sponsored continuing education courses for licensed water well constructors.

If enacted after July 1, 2025, the measure applies retroactively to that date and ratifies any fees charged by the Water Resources Commission or Department for services provided on or after July 1, 2025

Fiscal Analysis

The fiscal impact for WRD is anticipated to be minimal. The fee increases authorized by the measure are expected to generate approximately \$920,000 in Other Funds revenue for both the 2025-27 and 2027-29 biennia, with most of the revenue associated with increases to Start Card fees. Start Card fees were last increased in 2021 (HB 2145). Fee revenue will support WRD's well construction and licensing programs, including the administration of license examinations, review of permit applications, and oversight of continuing education requirements for well constructors.

Relevant Dates

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.