



Legislative Fiscal Office
 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to water reuse; prescribing an effective date.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Environmental Quality, Water Resources Department, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Agriculture, Department of Fish and Wildlife

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Environmental Quality	\$ 251,798	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 251,798	1	0.88
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 251,798	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 251,798	1	0.88

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Environmental Quality	\$ 307,474	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 307,474	1	1.00
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 307,474	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 307,474	1	1.00

Measure Description

The measure directs the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to establish and lead an interagency water reuse team, with support from multiple state agencies. DEQ shall provide training, identify internal barriers within agencies, evaluate environmentally protective approaches, develop technical assistance guidance, propose regulatory changes, and set goals and performance metrics to support water reuse efforts. Additionally, DEQ must report to the Legislature each odd-numbered year on progress toward water reuse goals, with the reporting requirement set to repeal on January 2, 2032.

Fiscal Analysis

The fiscal impact is \$251,798 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium and \$307,474 General Fund in the 2027-29 biennium.

Department of Environmental Quality

DEQ will require funding to support a permanent full-time Natural Resource Specialist 4 (0.88 FTE in 2025-27 biennium, 1.00 FTE in 2027-29 biennium) to lead the interagency water reuse team. This position would be responsible for coordinating support from the team and consulting with municipal wastewater utilities to provide training, education, and technical support; identify agency barriers to water reuse; evaluate successful approaches from other states; propose regulatory changes; and establish performance metrics. The estimated cost for the 2025-27 biennium is \$251,798 General Fund, which includes \$233,298 for staffing costs and assumes the position is hired three months after the start of the biennium. The estimated cost for the 2027-29 biennium is \$307,474 General Fund, which includes \$288,974 for staffing costs and assumes annual salary increases.

Other entities

The measure is anticipated to have a minimal impact for the Department of Agriculture, the Oregon Health Authority, the Water Resources Department, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Relevant Dates

By December 15 of each odd-numbered year, the Department of Environmental Quality must submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the environment on progress toward water reuse development goals.

The requirement to report on water reuse development goals is repealed on January 2, 2032.

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect July 1, 2025.