

# A-Engrossed House Bill 2813

Ordered by the House March 6  
Including House Amendments dated March 6

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of Governor Tina Kotek for Water Resources Department)

## 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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

**Digest: The Act creates a new fund related to ground water conservation. The Act puts money in the fund. (Flesch Readability Score: 80.2).**

*[Digest: The Act creates a new fund related to ground water conservation in Harney County. The Act puts money in the fund. (Flesch Readability Score: 75.3).]*

Establishes the [*Harney*] **Groundwater** Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund.

Appropriates moneys for the [*Harney*] **Groundwater** Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to water right retirement under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program; and de-  
3 claring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation**  
6 **made to the Water Resources Department, by \_\_\_\_\_, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025,**  
7 **for technical services, is decreased by \$500,000.**

8 **SECTION 2. (1) There is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the**  
9 **General Fund, the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund.**  
10 **Interest earned by the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match**  
11 **Fund shall be credited to the fund.**

12 **(2)(a) All moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Water Resources De-**  
13 **partment to provide the state contribution for water users who cancel ground water rights**  
14 **as part of enrollment in the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (16 U.S.C.**  
15 **3831a).**

16 **(b) This subsection applies only to water users in areas in which the department is not**  
17 **allowing new rights to use ground water for irrigation.**

18 **(3) The fund shall consist of all moneys credited to the fund, including moneys appropri-**  
19 **ated or transferred to the fund by the Legislative Assembly.**

20 **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
21 **ated to the Water Resources Department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the**  
22 **General Fund, the amount of \$500,000, for deposit in the Groundwater Conservation Reserve**  
23 **Enhancement Program Match Fund established under section 2 of this 2025 Act for the**

**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 purpose of providing the state contribution for water users who cancel ground water rights  
2 as part of enrollment in the Harney Valley Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement  
3 Program.

4 SECTION 4. Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on  
5 expenditures established by \_\_\_\_\_, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, as the maximum  
6 limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous  
7 Receipts, and including federal funds received under cooperative agreements with or con-  
8 tracts from the Bureau of Reclamation of the United States Department of the Interior, the  
9 United States Army Corps of Engineers, the United States Geological Survey, the Bonneville  
10 Power Administration and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, but excluding lottery  
11 funds and federal funds not described in this section, collected or received by the Water  
12 Resources Department, for technical services, is increased by \$500,000, for authorized  
13 expenditures of moneys deposited in the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement  
14 Program Match Fund established under section 2 of this 2025 Act.

15 SECTION 5. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
16 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect  
17 on its passage.

18 \_\_\_\_\_