

House Bill 3305

Sponsored by Representative EVANS

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 **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: This Act creates a state desalination agency and tells it to carry out a study. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.8).

Establishes the Oregon Desalination Authority. Directs the authority to study the development and maintenance of desalination facilities in this state.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to desalination; and prescribing an effective date.

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

ESTABLISHING THE OREGON DESALINATION AUTHORITY

SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Desalination Authority is established.

(2) The authority shall study and develop techniques for converting saline water into fresh water that can be used for drinking water, irrigation or other human needs.

(3) The authority may establish desalination facilities in this state, subject to the availability of moneys appropriated to the authority for that purpose.

DIRECTOR

SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Desalination Authority is under the supervision and control of a director, who is responsible for the performance of the duties, functions and powers of the authority.

(2) The Governor shall appoint the Director of the Oregon Desalination Authority, who holds office at the pleasure of the Governor.

(3) The appointment of the director is subject to confirmation by the Senate in the manner prescribed in ORS 171.562 and 171.565.

(4) The director shall be paid a salary as provided by law or, if not so provided, as prescribed by the Governor.

(5) Subject to the approval of the Governor, the director may organize and reorganize the administrative structure of the authority as the director considers appropriate to properly conduct the work of the authority.

(6) The director may divide the functions of the authority into administrative divisions. Subject to the approval of the Governor, the director may appoint an individual to administer each division. The administrator of each division serves at the pleasure of the director and

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.

is not subject to the provisions of ORS chapter 240. Each individual appointed under this subsection must be well qualified by technical training and experience in the functions to be performed by the individual.

EMPLOYEES

SECTION 3. (1) The Director of the Oregon Desalination Authority shall, by written order filed with the Secretary of State, appoint a deputy director. The deputy director serves at the pleasure of the director, has authority to act for the director in the absence of the director and is subject to the control of the director at all times.

(2) Subject to any applicable provisions of ORS chapter 240, the director shall appoint all subordinate officers and employees of the Oregon Desalination Authority, prescribe their duties and fix their compensation.

GENERAL AUTHORITY TO ADOPT RULES

SECTION 4. In accordance with the provisions of ORS chapter 183, the Oregon Desalination Authority may adopt rules for the administration of the laws that the Oregon Desalination Authority is charged with administering.

ADVISORY AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

SECTION 5. (1) To aid and advise the Director of the Oregon Desalination Authority in the performance of the functions of the Oregon Desalination Authority, the director may establish any advisory or technical committee the director considers necessary. The committees may be continuing or temporary. The director shall determine the representation, membership, terms and organization of the committees and shall appoint the members of the committees. The director shall be an ex officio member of each committee.

(2) Members of the committees are not entitled to compensation but, in the discretion of the director, may be reimbursed from funds available to the authority for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by the members in the performance of official duties in the manner and amount provided in ORS 292.495.

STUDY

SECTION 6. (1) The Oregon Desalination Authority shall study the development and maintenance of a statewide system of desalination facilities that includes:

(a) At least four major desalination facilities located along the Oregon coast; and

(b) Pipelines or other conveyances to distribute water from desalination facilities to areas where additional water resources are urgently needed.

(2) The authority shall submit its findings in a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the committees or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to water no later than June 30, 2027.

APPROPRIATION

1 **SECTION 7.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there are appro-
2 priated to the Oregon Desalination Authority, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out
3 of the General Fund, the following amounts for the following purposes:

4 (1) \$_____ for the establishment of the Oregon Desalination Authority pursuant to
5 sections 1 to 5 of this 2025 Act.

6 (2) \$_____ to carry out section 6 of this 2025 Act.

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8 **UNIT CAPTIONS**

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10 **SECTION 8.** The unit captions used in this 2025 Act are provided only for the convenience
11 of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any leg-
12 islative intent in the enactment of this 2025 Act.

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14 **EFFECTIVE DATE**

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16 **SECTION 9.** This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2025
17 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.