

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 731

Ordered by the Senate May 24
Including Senate Amendments dated May 24

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE

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.

[Requires all water users to measure amounts of water withdrawn or stored.]

[Applies to new water users on and after July 1, 2005. Applies to existing water users on January 1, 2010. Allows Water Resources Commission to require water users to report water use measurements.]

[Declares emergency, effective on passage.]

Directs Water Resources Department to develop and implement program for increasing statewide water use measurement.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to measurement of water use; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 536.241.

3 Whereas the Legislative Assembly finds that water use measurement can be an integral part of
4 an effective statewide water management program; and

5 Whereas the Water Resources Commission is responsible for establishing coordinated programs
6 for the use and control of all water resources of the state; now, therefore,

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

8 **SECTION 1.** ORS 536.241 is amended to read:

9 536.241. (1) The Legislative Assembly finds that the availability of an adequate water supply is
10 essential to the continued health and safety of all Oregonians.

11 (2) The Legislative Assembly declares that it is the policy of the State of Oregon to ensure a
12 water supply sufficient to meet the needs of existing and future beneficial uses of water, and to ad-
13 equately manage the state's water resources. Further, in recognition of this policy, the Legislative
14 Assembly declares that the planning and management of the water resources of this state shall be
15 conducted in a consistent and coordinated manner.

16 **(3) In furtherance of this policy, the Water Resources Department shall develop and im-**
17 **plement a program for increasing statewide water use measurement. The program shall:**

18 **(a) Be a voluntary program that encourages water users to participate through collab-**
19 **oration and cost-share opportunities;**

20 **(b) Focus on water users that are not currently required to measure water use;**

21 **(c) Prioritize water use measurement requirements according to the quantity of water**
22 **diverted and according to the potential effects of water diversion on streamflows;**

23 **(d) Utilize a phased approach to implementation; and**

24 **(e) Utilize the available staff and resources of the department to implement the program.**

25 **SECTION 2.** ORS 536.241 (3) does not limit the statutory authority of the Water Re-

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 sources Department to require the installation of water use measuring devices and the re-
2 porting of water use.

3 **SECTION 3.** The Water Resources Department shall report to the appropriate interim
4 legislative committee related to natural resources, no later than December 31, 2007, on the
5 development and implementation of the program established in ORS 536.241 (3).
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