

# House Bill 3101

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON WATER (at the request of Representative Ken Helm)

## 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**.

Directs Water Resources Department to establish grant program for purposes of providing grants for abandonment, repair or replacement of certain water wells.

Establishes Water Well Abandonment, Repair and Replacement Revolving Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to department for specified purposes.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for funding positions related to water wells and establishing grant program for purpose of providing grants for abandonment, repair or replacement of certain water wells.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to water wells; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Water Resources Department shall establish by rule a grant program**  
5 **for purposes of providing grants for the abandonment, repair or replacement of water wells:**

6 (a) **That, due to construction deficiencies, may contribute to declines in ground water**  
7 **levels or may serve as a conduit for contamination or otherwise be a detriment to public**  
8 **health and safety; or**

9 (b) **That are in areas of declining ground water levels where other sources of water are**  
10 **not feasible.**

11 (2) **In administering the program, the department:**

12 (a) **Shall develop criteria for receiving a grant and a process for applying for a grant; and**

13 (b) **May require a recipient of a grant to report to the department on the use of the grant**  
14 **funds.**

15 **SECTION 2. (1) The Water Well Abandonment, Repair and Replacement Revolving Fund**  
16 **is established, separate and distinct from the General Fund. When requested by the Water**  
17 **Resources Director, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall draw a warrant**  
18 **in favor of the Water Resources Department from funds appropriated or otherwise made**  
19 **available to the Water Resources Department for purposes consistent with this section for**  
20 **deposit into the revolving fund. Moneys deposited into the revolving fund are continuously**  
21 **appropriated to the Water Resources Department for use as provided in section 1 of this 2021**  
22 **Act. The revolving fund may not exceed the aggregate sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_, including unreim-**  
23 **bursed disbursements.**

24 (2) **The Water Resources Department may solicit or accept moneys for deposit into the**  
25 **revolving fund from any private or public sources for use by the department for purposes**  
26 **consistent with this section.**

27 **SECTION 3. There is appropriated to the Water Resources Department, for the biennium**  
28 **beginning July 1, 2021, out of the General Fund:**

**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           (1) The amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the purpose of funding positions for a well construction  
2 compliance reviewer, well construction specialist and well specialist; and

3           (2) The amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 1  
4 of this 2021 Act.

5           SECTION 4. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
6 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect  
7 on its passage.

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