

House Bill 3326

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT (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**.

Declares harmful algal blooms to be menace to public health and welfare. Directs Oregon Health Authority to identify water sources susceptible to harmful algal blooms, monitor and test susceptible waters and develop protocol for advisory alerts.

Directs Department of Environmental Quality to develop response strategy to harmful algal blooms, produce and maintain relevant data, identify sources of pollutants and develop strategies to reduce pollutants.

Appropriates moneys to Department of Environmental Quality for purpose of carrying out duties under Act.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to water quality.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 448.119 to**
5 **448.285.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) The Legislative Assembly finds and declares harmful algal blooms to be**
7 **a threat to safe drinking water supplies and a menace to public health and welfare.**

8 **(2) The Oregon Health Authority, in coordination with the Department of Environmental**
9 **Quality as further provided for in section 4 of this 2019 Act, shall:**

10 **(a) Determine and identify water sources that are susceptible to harmful algal blooms**
11 **or that are downstream of or influenced by water sources that are susceptible to harmful**
12 **algal blooms.**

13 **(b) Develop a system for the regular monitoring and testing of water sources determined**
14 **to be susceptible to harmful algal blooms or that are downstream of or influenced by water**
15 **sources that are susceptible to harmful algal blooms.**

16 **(c) Prioritize monitoring of water sources that are susceptible to harmful algal blooms**
17 **and that are:**

18 **(A) Sources of domestic and municipal drinking water; or**

19 **(B) Bodies of water accessed by the public for recreational use.**

20 **(d) Develop a protocol for issuing hazard advisory alerts to the public in the occurrence**
21 **of a harmful algal bloom.**

22 **SECTION 3. Section 4 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 468B.**

23 **SECTION 4. The Department of Environmental Quality, in coordination with the Oregon**
24 **Health Authority, shall:**

25 **(1) Develop and maintain a coordinated state agency harmful algal bloom response mon-**
26 **itoring and response strategy.**

27 **(2) Produce timely and high-quality data that allow the Oregon Health Authority to de-**
28 **termine the level of risk of harm or injury to the public health.**

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 **(3) Maintain a publicly accessible clearinghouse of all data related to harmful algal**
2 **blooms.**

3 **(4) Identify sources of pollutants that contribute to the occurrences of harmful algal**
4 **blooms.**

5 **(5) Develop strategies for reducing pollutants that contribute to the occurrences of**
6 **harmful algal blooms and the frequency and severity of harmful algal blooms.**

7 **(6) Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of strategies implemented for reducing**
8 **pollutants that contribute to the occurrences of harmful algal blooms.**

9 **SECTION 5.** **In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
10 **ated to the Department of Environmental Quality, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019,**
11 **out of the General Fund, the amount of \$983,919, which may be expended for carrying out the**
12 **provisions of section 4 of this 2019 Act.**

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