



2021 Water/Environment/Energy LEGISLATIVE WATCH LIST

WATER/WASTEWATER

HB 2144 – Water Transfers

Placeholder bill. This bill, along with other anticipated legislation, will seek to address the Oregon Water Resource Department's interpretation that the state lacks authority to process transfers of stored water (i.e. changing the type of use for stored water or the location of stored water). This bill is important for water supply management and to ensure the eventual transfer of federally stored water in the Willamette basin for municipal use.

HB 2251 – Regional Water Supply Planning

Appropriates general funds to Oregon Water Resources Department for local and regional water use planning efforts (including implementation) and to identify local/regional water needs and strategies.

HB 2310 – Water Pipe Preemption

Preempts local governments from adopting design specifications that preclude the use of certain piping materials if those piping materials meet certain national design standards for drinking water/wastewater applications. The preemption would only apply to projects where state funds are directly or indirectly used. LOC opposed this bill last session and remains opposed. When overlaid with existing public contracting laws, the bill could result in a city being required to use a piping material that they know will not work for a specific project, or to, instead, forego accessing state funding in order to avoid the mandate.

HB 2344 – Labeling Requirement for Non-Flushable Wipes

Requires manufacturers of wipes products (e.g. baby wipes, make-up wipes, cleaning wipes and other personal care wipes) to label product packaging as non-flushable. Violations of the law would be enforceable under the Unlawful Trade Practices Act. LOC has worked to introduce this legislation in response to concerns over clogs in wastewater infrastructure that result from improper disposal of these products.

HB 2739 – Water/Sewer Rate Assistance

Establishes a statewide drinking water and sewer rate assistance program. Appropriates \$15 million in general funds for program. This issue is a LOC priority bill for 2021.

HB 2885/SB 622 – Levee Funding

Appropriates \$10 million is funding for levee projects with 60 percent of grants to be used for assistance in rural and distressed areas.

League of Oregon Cities

Representing Oregon's 241 incorporated cities

ENVIRONMENT

[HB 2065](#) – Recycling System Modernization

Makes significant changes to Oregon's recycling system. Requires certain manufacturers of packaging, printed paper and other covered products to participate in a producer responsibility organization (PRO) to help finance costs associated with disposal and recycling of materials. In addition, funds collected through the PRO could be used for public education to reduce contamination in recycling, for transportation costs associated with transferring products to processing facilities, and expanding recycling collection service, including for multifamily properties. Establishes Oregon Recycling System Advisory Council, and a process for the state to adopt a uniform statewide collection list of materials that are eligible to be recycled. Prohibits materials from being labeled as recyclable if the product is not accepted for recycling by a majority of recycling services in the state. (Note – there is a similar but more expansive bill that has also been introduced (HB 2592)).

[HB 2383](#) – Recycling Truth in Labeling

Prohibits materials from being labeled as recyclable if the product is not accepted for recycling by a majority of recycling services in the state.

[HB 2365](#) – Single Use Silverware Ban

Prohibits a food vendor for using or providing single use silverware.

[HB 2317](#) – Polystyrene Ban

Prohibits a food vendor for using or providing polystyrene containers.

ENERGY

[HB 2165](#) – Retail Consumer Monthly Meter Charges for Transportation Electrification

Requires electric companies to charge retail customers and expend revenues collected for the purpose of supporting and integrating transportation electrification and related infrastructure.

[HB 2475/2490](#) – Differential Energy Burden

Authorizes the Public Utility Commission to consider differential energy burden in rate setting for certain classes of electric company customers.



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More Information Available at

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