COIN Legislative Session Worksheet for 2025

Bill Number and Title: SB 5543 – Funding for the Oregon Water Resource Dept.

Brief Description of Bill: This bill provides a variety of funding provisions for the Oregon Water Resource Department, some good , some bad. Good: Maintains OWRD's current funding levels to provide services. Package 107 would provide funding to modernize the IT systems. Package 111 would ensure the agency website is up to date and more accessible. Bad: The department does not have enough funding to properly collect data and manage the resource. Package 090 would reduce funding for data collection and services . We are opposed to this provision.

Name of Point Person who completed this form: Craig Lacy

Email address if you are willing to be contacted with questions about this bill:lacycraig@gmail.comClick or tap here to enter text.

Last Updated: 03/07/2025

1. Research topic – choose which category best fits your bill:

☐ Climate, Energy Environment ☐ Housing/Houselessness

☐ Campaign Finance Reform ☐ Immigration/Social Justice

☐ Healthcare/Gun Safety ☐ Education

☐ Transportation ☐ Economics

☐ Criminal Justice ☐ Gun Safety

☐ Other describe: Click or tap here to enter text.

2. The bill's Legislative champions –Oregon Department of Administrative Services at request of the Governor

Regular Sponsors:

3. The bill's legislative opponents: Uncertain

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4. What advocacy groups are supporting this bill and why are they supporting it? Provide contact information if available. Waterwatch, Wild Salmon Center, Oregon Water Resource Congress, The Nature Conservancy, Oregon League of Women Voters, Central Oregon Landwatch

5. What groups are opposing this bill and why are they opposing it? (maximum 200 words) Uncertain. Often the agriculture industry is opposed to funding aspects of OWRD.

6. Reasons COIN should take a position on this bill. Choose all that apply:

☐Progressive groups across the state care strongly about this. OWRD is traditionally underfunded and they don't have enough money to properly administer the water resources of the state. W/O the proper field work and data collection they don't have the proper basis for management decisions.

☐This Bill protects or expands the rights of marginalized populations.

☐This bill helps change the structures of the democratic system to make it work better.

☐This issue is controlled by the state or states have a great deal of power in it.

☐Other

7. What is the likelihood this bill will pass? Unknown

8. List the relevant dates concerning the bill - Public Hearing before Joint Ways and Means Natural Resource Subcommittee

Thursday Feb. 20 3pm. Written testimony taken till Sat. Feb. 22nd. Nothing currently scheduled as of 03/07/2025

9. Please list any specific advocacy action you would like COIN to help with, any media contacts that may be helpful or any other important information?
https://waterwatch.org/action-alert-speak-up-now-for-critical-investments-in-oregons-waters/