

House Bill 2737

Sponsored by Representative NEARMAN; Representatives BARRETO, LEIF, SPRENGER

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**.

Requires at least 50 percent of total annual amount of all civil penalties imposed by Environmental Quality Commission or Department of Environmental Quality for violations of water quality rules or standards to be deposited in Waterway Enhancement Fund.

Establishes Waterway Enhancement Fund. Requires moneys in fund to be used for removal and disposal of debris in waterways. Directs commission to adopt rules to implement provisions of 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. Sections 2 and 3 of this 2019 Act are added to and made a part of ORS**
5 **chapter 468.**

6 **SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the Department of Envi-**
7 **ronmental Quality shall deposit no less than 50 percent of the total annual amount of all civil**
8 **penalties imposed by the Environmental Quality Commission or the department for violations**
9 **of water quality rules or standards in the Waterway Enhancement Fund established under**
10 **section 3 of this 2019 Act.**

11 **SECTION 3. (1) The Waterway Enhancement Fund is established in the State Treasury,**
12 **separate and distinct from the General Fund. Moneys in the Waterway Enhancement Fund**
13 **are continuously appropriated to the Department of Environmental Quality for the purposes**
14 **specified in this section.**

15 **(2) The fund shall consist of moneys deposited in the fund under section 2 of this 2019**
16 **Act.**

17 **(3) Moneys in the fund may be used:**

18 **(a) To pay the expenses of the department in activities associated with the removal and**
19 **disposal of debris in waterways; and**

20 **(b) To provide grants for activities associated with the removal and disposal of debris in**
21 **waterways.**

22 **(4) The Environmental Quality Commission shall adopt rules to implement the provisions**
23 **of this section and section 2 of this 2019 Act. Rules adopted under this subsection shall in-**
24 **clude, but need not be limited to, rules for establishing a grant program for the distribution**
25 **of moneys in the fund consistent with subsection (3)(b) of this section.**
26

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.