

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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Action: Do Pass  
Vote: 4 - 0 - 1  
Yeas: Cowan, Nelson, Schaufler, Boone  
Nays: 0  
Exc.: Krieger  
Prepared By: Jim Keller, Administrator  
Meeting Dates: 2/27, 3/15

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires the Office of Emergency Management to prepare a written animal emergency operations plan to provide for animals during major disaster or emergency. Requires the State Department of Agriculture to prepare a written livestock emergency operations plan to provide for livestock during a major disaster or emergency. Allows person engaged in search and rescue operations to rescue certain animals.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Grants from Homeland Security
- Impact on emergency services
- Practical aspects during an emergency
- Alternative locations for animals
- Potential liability to the state with or without an emergency plan for animals
- Tillamook's improved emergency response for animals
- Impact of exotic, dangerous or pet hoarders
- Good Samaritan statute for Veterinarians

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** The amendment emphasizes the protection of human life, removes mandatory holding periods and limits liability in the rescue of a companion animal.

**BACKGROUND:** Senate Bill 570 would require the Office of Emergency Management and the State Department of Agriculture to develop written emergency operations plans for animals and livestock during major disaster or an emergency that provides for the evacuation, transport and temporary shelters. The bill defines "companion animals" and "service animals", information to be considered in the written emergency plan and directs the Office of Emergency Management to apply for federal funds available under the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006.