

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	6 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Holvey, Huffman, Lim, Riley, Sprenger, Witt
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Barnhart
Prepared By:	Patrick Brennan, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/5, 2/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes the Oregon Declared Emergency Recovery Fund. Requires the Legislative Assembly to appropriate General Fund moneys and to allocate lottery moneys to the fund. Authorizes the Oregon Military Department to disburse moneys from the fund, under direction of a review board established by the Governor for that purpose. Declares an emergency and takes effect upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Response and recovery efforts from December 2007 storms
- Need to help local governments with matching funds for federal recovery grants
- Appropriate authority for determining where moneys from the fund are to be spent

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Specifies that moneys in the fund are to be disbursed by the Oregon Military Department (OMD) through the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). Directs OMD and OEM, at the direction of the Governor, to establish a review board to identify and prioritize recipients of loans and grants from the fund. Specifies membership requirements of review board.

BACKGROUND: Several communities in northwest Oregon were devastated by a storm that struck the region in December 2007, as well as by flooding and landslides that occurred shortly following the storm. These communities face significant rebuilding costs to repair infrastructure, schools and municipal buildings. Residents and businesses in the communities are also facing the prospect of rebuilding damaged or destroyed property. In many cases, local governments can apply for disaster aid through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), but grants require that local governments match the federal funds on a 75:25 ratio. Many communities lack the resources to provide the 25 percent matching dollars to receive the federal aid.

HB 3607-A establishes the Oregon Declared Emergency Recovery Fund (ODERF) to provide the Governor with access to resources for recovery efforts following a federal/state declared emergency. Resources to establish the fund would be a blend of 25 percent General Fund and 75 percent lottery revenues. Moneys from the fund may be used for the following: providing low-interest or no-interest loans to local governments to be used to match moneys from federal programs for emergency relief that require a match; providing funds to be used by the Department of Human Services or Department of Housing and Community Services in response and recovery efforts; or providing funds for costs that the Governor deems appropriate, necessary and urgent for the state's response to a declared state of emergency. Each biennium, the Legislative Assembly will appropriate moneys from the General Fund to ODERF; General Fund moneys appropriated to the fund unspent at the end of each biennium will not revert to the General Fund. In addition to the General Fund appropriation, three times that amount will be appropriated each biennium from the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund. Interest accruing to the balance of the fund will be credited back to the fund. The Oregon Military Department is charged with disbursing moneys from the fund, through the Office of Emergency Management, at the direction of a review board formed by the Governor for the purpose of identifying and prioritizing needs for the funds.

2/13/2008 7:55:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.