

**PRELIMINARY** STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

**SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:** None

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**Action:**

**Vote:**

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

**Prepared By:** Cheyenne Ross, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 3/21, 3/28

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Reiterates that funds held in Emergency Communications account must be used for purposes described in ORS 403.240. Requires statutory change to deviate from purposes described in ORS 403.240. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- History of diversion of funds and of interest on funds
- Critical need to upgrade
- Critical nature of emergency services
- Potential disqualification of states that divert, from applying for federal dollars under NET 911 Improvement Act of 2008

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Oregon Revised Statute 430.240 lists all the emergency services purposes that funds held in the Emergency Communications Account may be used for; however, the Legislative Assembly has diverted or attempted to divert (“swept”) these funds a half-dozen times for other purposes when it deems such diversion necessary. Senate Bill 597 reiterates that funds in the Emergency Communications Account may only be used for the purposes listed under ORS 430.240.