

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:****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Cheyenne Ross, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 4/7, 4/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires local governments to plan for tsunami resilience of at-risk communities. Requires rulemaking by Land Conservation and Development Commission.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure and amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

[-1 amendment] Requires Office of Emergency Management (OEM) enter into price agreement for heavy-lift helicopter as specified. Permits local contracting agency and local government to contract helicopter under price agreement. Adds emergency clause and operative date of January 1, 2016.

[-2 amendment] Directs Oregon Homeland Security Council to identify certain energy infrastructure vulnerabilities; determine generator capacities; partner with others to make specified evaluations pertaining to emergency fuel; and make required recommendations.

[-3 amendment] Incorporates -2 amendment, but removes requirement for Homeland Security Council to evaluate fuel in partnership with others. Permits emergency preparedness agencies and local governments to establish partnerships to evaluate, plan, and finance alternatives with regard to fuel in the event of disaster. Authorizes local governments to issue revenue bonds and make loans to private entities. Allows Homeland Security Council to impose requirements on financing methods.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission (OSSPAC or Earthquake Commission) was established by Senate Bill 96 in 1991. It exists to influence pre-disaster mitigation policy, educate the public, and respond to new earthquake and tsunami data or issues. It is required to generate a report on its activities every two years, and in February of 2013, it issued arguably its most comprehensive report: The Oregon Resilience Plan.

The Plan's central finding is plain and not new: The Cascadia subduction zone, an active fault off the coast of Oregon, poses a severe geological hazard to the state. Oregon is overdue for a large magnitude earthquake stemming from the Cascadia subduction zone, and she is woefully underprepared. The Resilience Plan contains more than 140 recommendations and emphasizes the importance of a sustained effort, perhaps over the next fifty years, to make ongoing earthquake and tsunami preparations.

Soon after the Plan was released, Senate Bill 33 (2013) created a task force to tackle implementation. The task force completed its work in October of 2014. It prioritized issues for possible legislation and made recommendations to the Legislature concerning oversight, transportation, land use, energy, critical facilities, training and education, and water. As a result, a number of measures were introduced for the 2015 regular legislative session; House Bill 94 among them.

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

House Bill 94 is a catch-all measure for a number of concepts related to disaster preparedness. It requires communities to plan; it requires a heavy lift helicopter be available to local governments; and it both directs and requests the Homeland Security Council, and local emergency entities and governments, to begin to address issues with regard to fuel – availability, access, storage, transport – in the event of disaster.