Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 94 A

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact, statement issued (Indeterminate Impact)

Action Date: 04/21/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments And Requesting Referral To Ways And Means.

(Printed A-Engrossed.)

Meeting Dates: 04/07, 04/21

Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Monnes Anderson, Olsen, President Courtney

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires local governments to plan for tsunami resilience of at-risk communities. Requires rulemaking by Land Conservation and Development Commission. 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. Sets operative date of January 1, 2016. Directs Oregon Homeland Security Council (OHSC) to identify certain energy infrastructure vulnerabilities and make recommendations. 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 OHSC to impose requirements on financing methods. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

• Provisions of measure and amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE 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. Sets operative date of January 1, 2016. Directs Oregon Homeland Security Council (OHSC) to identify certain energy infrastructure vulnerabilities and make recommendations. 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 OHSC to impose requirements on financing methods. Adds emergency clause.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission (OSSPAC) was established by Senate Bill 96 (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 its most comprehensive report: The Oregon Resilience Plan (the 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 is woefully underprepared. The 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; this measure among them.

House Bill 94-A is an omnibus 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; it both directs and requests the Oregon Homeland Security Council, local emergency entities, and governments, to begin to address issues with regard to fuel in the event of a disaster; and it authorizes local governments to establish partnerships, issue revenue bonds, and make loans to private entities to find ways to plan for and finance alternatives with regard to fuel.