

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact**Action Date:** 02/02/16**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments. Refer To Ways And Means By Prior Reference.
(Printed A-Eng).**Meeting Dates:** 02/02**Vote:**

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

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates short-term grant program to be developed and administered by the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) in consultation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), to permit withdrawal of fuel by specified personnel from certain fuel storage facilities in an emergency. Limits each grant to \$4,000 per facility. Limits total grants fund to \$100,000. Requires Fire Marshall to check installation of connectors financed by grant funds, as part of existing annual inspections already performed. Sunsets June 30, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for access to fuel for emergency vehicles in emergency situations
- Collaborative approach between OEM, ODOT, and private industry
- Fixed vs. mobile storage facilities

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Requires Fire Marshall to check installation of connectors financed by grant funds, as part of existing annual inspections already performed.

BACKGROUND:

In a catastrophic disaster such as an earthquake along the Cascadia subduction zone, infrastructure and utilities, including electricity and liquid fuel lines, will be destroyed or incapacitated. Emergency response personnel may be limited to whatever fuel they have immediately on-hand, which could be exhausted within the first one to three days. Liquid fuel is stored in various facilities located across the state, in varying capacities, both above and below ground, and energy is required to pump the fuel out. Many emergency response entities possess generators that could be used to pump fuel out of a storage facility during a power outage, but not all generators are capable of connecting to all fuel storage tanks.

Senate Bill 1523-A is the product of work group activity that included private fuel companies, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). It enables OEM and ODOT to develop a grant program to target large-capacity fuel storage locations along critical routes, and distribute funds to install connectors that are compatible with generators used by specific personnel during an emergency.