

Date: April 18, 2017

To: Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

From: Mike Harryman, State Resilience Officer and Office of Governor Kate Brown

Subject: SB 850 – Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission

Chair Boquist and members of the committee, I'm Mike Harryman the State Resilience Officer in the Office of Governor Kate Brown.

I'm honored to speak to you all today.

The State Resilience Officer (SRO) position was recommended by SB 33 – Oregon Resilience Task Force bill in September 2014 and was established in 2015 with HB 2270.

I was confirmed by the full senate on May 25, 2016.

The National Academy of Sciences in 2012 described resiliency as the *“ability to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from or more successfully adapt to actual or potential adverse events.”* Oregon's area of concern is the Cascadia Subduction Zone, with its last complete rupture occurring in January 1700, 317-years ago.

In February 2013, the Oregon Seismic and Safety Policy Advisory Commission (OSSPAC) presented to the 77th Legislative Assembly the Oregon Resilience Plan (ORP) as directed based on House Resolution 3, adopted in April 2011. OSSPAC offered the following definition of the seismic resilience goal:

“Oregon citizens will not only be protected from life-threatening physical harm, but because of the risk reduction measures and pre-disaster planning, communities will recover more quickly and with less continuing vulnerability following a Cascadia subduction zone earthquake and tsunami.”

The ORP focuses on providing legislators with information and data so that you can make investments each biennium starting with the 2013 session and continuing over the next several biennium's to build up the resiliency of the state's infrastructure. The early investments that have begun are the building blocks for future investments, but make no mistake we still have a long road ahead to achieve our goal.

ORS 401.915 provides the mission of OSSPAC and one of those critical activities is to reduce earthquake hazards, this bill with the -2 amendment to SB 850 meets that intent. Also working with the new position of the State Resilience Officer as outlined in ORS 401.913 together can address two recommendations made by OSSPAC in February 2016. The first would be to address residential earthquake insurance following the modeling of the California Earthquake Authority's that has been on the books for the past 20-years and is a national model. The other

issue is to do a “deep-dive” into Oregon’s planning gaps on mass care/mass displacement resulting from a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and subsequent tsunami. This last issue was a recommendation made by OSSPAC in the ORP in Chapter 9 entitled ‘Looking Ahead’.

That time is now.

This is the first major opportunity to use the governing structure of OSSPAC with the executive branch focus of the SRO authority in addressing CSZ issues.

Lastly, SB 850 is not in the GRB, so we are neutral on the bill at this time.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. I would be happy to answer any questions.