

SB 1000 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: Bradley Volk, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes creation of volunteer civil defense force under Department of State Police (DPS) called Oregon State Police Civil Defense Force. Describes its function. Requires its volunteers, and volunteers with County Civil Defense Forces, to possess certain qualifications. Provides further insulation from tort liability. Distinguishes Oregon State Police Civil Defense Force from Oregon State Defense Force, and renames Oregon State Defense Force, Oregon State Police Civil Defense Force.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

Vote in Senate: Ayes 27, Excused 3

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law currently provides for the existence of volunteer, civilian defense forces that are distinct from, but supplement the activities of professional first responders and the Armed Forces, at both the state and local levels. At the local level, county volunteer forces answer to county Sheriffs, and at the state level, the Oregon State Defense Force answers to the Adjutant General of the Oregon Military Department; however, the Oregon State Defense Force has been suspended for some time.

Senate Bill 1000 A authorizes the Department of State Police to form the Oregon State Police Civil Defense Force.