

HB 2888 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes grant program to assist publicly-owned utilities with eligible emergency response, recovery and mitigation projects, to be administered by the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). Creates the Oregon Public Utility Homeland Security Commission within OEM to review grant applications. Establishes the Oregon Public Utility Homeland Security Fund to receive unspecified moneys for program operation. Authorizes State Treasurer to issue lottery bonds at the request of the Department of Administrative Services after consultation with OEM.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2888 establishes a grant program to provide financial assistance for emergency preparedness and response projects undertaken by publicly-owned utilities. The measure establishes the Oregon Public Utility Homeland Security Commission within the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to review grant applications, and OEM administers the program and awards grants based on those recommendations. The measure also creates the necessary accounting structures and authorizes the issuance of lottery bonds.