

HB 2574 -1 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:

Directs the Office of Emergency Management to identify strategies to improve emergency preparedness education for Oregon residents and report to the Legislature by July 31, 2019. Sunsets January 2, 2020.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issue

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Deletes lines 4-10 of HB 2574, and amends ORS 336.071, a statute concerning emergency drills and instruction. Schools would be required to instruct on age-appropriate information, for at least four hours per school year, on survival in the days and weeks after a natural disaster. The Department of Education will be required to develop the age-appropriate curriculum relating to earthquake and tsunami safety for students kindergarten through grade 12. Each school district will be required to implement the curriculum unless the school district opts out by sending notice to the State Resilience Officer. The amount to be appropriated to the Department of Education for implementation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017 has not been determined. The stated amendments would first apply to the 2019-2020 school year.

BACKGROUND:

Chapter 141 of the Oregon Revised Statutes concerns emergency management and services. As found within this Chapter, it is the policy of the State of Oregon to reduce the vulnerability to loss of life, injury to persons or property and human suffering and financial loss resulting from emergencies, and to provide recovery and relief. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM), a division of the Oregon Military Department, coordinates and maintains a statewide emergency services system for emergency and disaster communications. Citizen access to emergency preparedness education is part of the process of meeting the State's overall emergency preparedness objectives.

House Bill 2574 requires OEM to identify strategies to improve access to emergency preparedness education and report to the Legislative Assembly no later than July 31, 2019.