

SB 1000 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Evans

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 05/30/17

Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 8-0-0-0

Yeas: 8 - Boone, Esquivel, Evans, Lewis, Lively, Meek, Parrish, Post

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Bradley Volk, LPRO Analyst

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.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Adds capacity to state police through volunteer civil defense force
- Legislative failure to obtain dedicated funding for state police
- Reduction in state police numbers
- Communications and other services provided by volunteers

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.