

HB 2205 -1, -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

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Meeting Dates: 3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Office of Emergency Management to study and make recommendations regarding possible improvements to operations of Office. Requires Office to submit report on findings by January 1, 2021.

PLACEHOLDER LANGUAGE - SEE "EFFECT OF AMENDMENTS" SECTION

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

- 1 Provides \$15 million in Article IX-Q bond proceeds for Lend-Lease/SPIRE program.
- 2 Directs State Aviation Board to develop list of preparedness equipment needed throughout the state to respond to local and regional emergencies. Directs Department of Aviation to develop and administer a grant program to distribute preparedness equipment or funds to purchase equipment. Specifies that Public Contracting Code does not apply to provisions of amendment. Directs Department to report to Legislative Assembly and State Board of Aviation on program. Establishes the Aviation Resiliency Grant Fund. Adds emergency clause.

BACKGROUND:

The coast of the Pacific Northwest has, for thousands of years, experienced periodic, catastrophic seismic events related to the Cascadia subduction zone (CSZ), which extends from northern California to British Columbia.

However, it was not until the 1980s when scientists recognized the CSZ as an active fault that poses a major threat to Oregon. Since then, building codes have been updated, and state and regional preparations have been undertaken to prepare Oregon citizens and the state's infrastructure and governments to better sustain through a potential earthquake, and also to be better able to recover following such an event.

The Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Committee (OSSPAC) defines the goal of seismic resilience as follows: "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 be able to recover more quickly and with less continuing vulnerability following a Cascadia subduction zone earthquake and tsunami."