

HB 2735 -2 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, 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Open Spaces Task Force on Emergency Preparedness and tasks it with identifying locations suitable for emergency preparedness, response, and recovery needs, as well as identifying projects to increase emergency resilience in the state. Directs the Task Force to report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2020. Sunsets December 31, 2020. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

NOTE - Measure has a subsequent referral to the Committee on Ways and Means

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Role that open spaces can play in disaster response and recovery

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces original measure. Creates Task Force on Disaster Response and Recovery to identify locations to serve as rally points, staging areas, and recovery spaces after a natural disaster. Designates Office of Emergency Management as staff support for Task Force. Directs Task Force to report to legislative assembly by September 15, 2020. Sunsets December 31, 2020. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2735 establishes an 11-member Open Spaces Task Force on Emergency Preparedness, consisting of the chairs of the House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness and the Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness and nine members of the public; the State Resilience Officer, the Director of the Office of Emergency Management, and the Adjutant General of the Oregon Military Department are designated as non-voting, ex-officio members.

The Task Force is given the duty of identifying locations, or potential locations, suitable as rally points for individuals displaced during an emergency; for response facilities for emergency service providers; and as recovery spaces for medium-term care, housing and support for individuals during an emergency. The Task Force is also to identify necessary projects to convert potential spaces into suitable open spaces; identify other projects that can increase emergency resilience; and to develop a prioritized list of potential emergency resilience projects.