

HB 3167 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/19, 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the State Fire Marshal to enter into an agreement with Eugene-Springfield Fire to enable development of urban search and rescue capabilities. Requires that Eugene-Springfield Fire agree to conduct urban search and rescue operations throughout the state when requested to do so by the State Fire Marshal, subject to certain limitations. Directs the State Fire Marshal to study and make recommendations regarding current urban search and rescue capabilities within Oregon and to submit a report on the study's findings by September 15, 2020. Appropriates \$1,210,040 from the General Fund to the State Fire Marshal to issue grants to Eugene-Springfield Fire for development of urban search and rescue capabilities. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Skills specific to urban search and rescue
- State has significantly reduced capacity for urban search and rescue
- Roll-out in three phases: reconstitute force, procure equipment, and continuing education
- Annual cost of maintaining program
- Possible funding streams for continuing program

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Urban search and rescue (US&R) involves the location, rescue (extrication), and initial medical stabilization of individuals trapped in confined spaces. These operations typically occur following a structural collapse, but may also result from transportation accidents, mines, and collapsed trenches. It is considered a "multi-hazard" discipline, meaning that it can become necessary following several different types of emergencies, including earthquakes, tsunamis, storms, tornadoes, accidents, terrorist attacks, or the release of hazardous materials.