

Senate Bill 1037

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes Transformational Resilience Task Force. Directs task force to research psychological, emotional and psychosocial resilience education and skills training. Requires task force to submit report on findings to committees of Legislative Assembly no later than May 2, 2022.

Sunsets June 30, 2022.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to resiliency education.

3 Whereas both natural and human-caused disasters and persistent overwhelming toxic stresses
4 can generate significant mental health problems including, but not limited to, severe anxiety, de-
5 pression, post-traumatic stress disorder and increased suicidal ideation; and

6 Whereas both natural and human-caused disasters and toxic stresses can generate psychosocial
7 maladies such as increased aggression, spousal and child abuse and violence that adversely affect
8 educational programs, neighborhoods and communities; and

9 Whereas the mental health and psychosocial problems resulting from disasters and toxic stresses
10 can aggravate or directly cause many physical illnesses and diseases; and

11 Whereas the mental health and psychosocial problems resulting from disasters and toxic stresses
12 can reduce worker productivity, increase employee turnover rates and in other ways hinder Oregon
13 businesses; and

14 Whereas the mental health and psychosocial problems resulting from disasters and toxic stresses
15 can undermine efforts by disaster response, mental health, physical health, education and other
16 programs to adequately perform their jobs; and

17 Whereas psychological, emotional and psychosocial resilience education and skills training can
18 prevent mental health and psychosocial problems within both adults and children and help adults
19 and children recover more rapidly from problems when they do occur; and

20 Whereas psychological, emotional and psychosocial resilience education and skills training can
21 motivate people to engage in prosocial activities that increase their own sense of well-being by as-
22 sisting others or engaging in positive civic activities; now, therefore,

23 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

24 **SECTION 1. (1) The Transformational Resilience Task Force is established.**

25 **(2)(a) The task force consists of 18 members, appointed as follows:**

26 **(A) The Senate Majority Leader and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall**
27 **jointly appoint one member, who shall serve as cochair of the task force with the member**
28 **appointed under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph;**

29 **(B) The Senate Minority Leader and the House Minority Leader shall jointly appoint one**
30 **member, who shall serve as cochair of the task force with the member appointed under**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

2 (C) The Senate Majority Leader shall appoint four members;

3 (D) The Senate Minority Leader shall appoint four members;

4 (E) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint four members; and

5 (F) The House Minority Leader shall appoint four members.

6 (b) Each member appointed to the task force must have expertise in a field or policy area
7 related to the purpose of the task force, or have experience with private, public or nonprofit
8 programs related to the purpose of the task force.

9 (c) Appointments to the task force must be made within 180 days of the effective date
10 of this 2019 Act.

11 (3) The task force shall, using survey data, statistical data, testimonies and anecdotal
12 data:

13 (a) Evaluate and quantify, to the extent possible, the impacts and costs for adults and
14 youths living in Oregon that a lack of psychological, emotional and psychosocial resilience
15 education and skills training have on individual and group responses to natural disasters,
16 including earthquakes, tsunamis, wildfires, smoke intrusion, wind, rain and snow storms,
17 floods, droughts, heat waves, sea level rise and storm surges, new illnesses and diseases and
18 human-caused disasters, including community violence, school violence and family trauma,
19 and the short- and long-term impacts on life and life outcomes, including:

20 (A) Mental health;

21 (B) Physical health;

22 (C) Education;

23 (D) Employment;

24 (E) Income;

25 (F) Nutrition;

26 (G) Rural and urban neighborhood and community stability;

27 (H) Emergency preparedness and response; and

28 (I) Environmental awareness;

29 (b) Evaluate and quantify, to the extent possible, the costs generated by a lack of adult
30 and youth psychological, emotional and psychosocial resilience education and skills training
31 that are incurred by the disaster preparedness and response, mental health, physical health,
32 social service, education, law enforcement, business and other sectors in Oregon;

33 (c) Evaluate and quantify, to the extent possible, the benefits of psychological, emotional
34 and psychosocial resilience education and skills training with respect to:

35 (A) Individual and group responses to natural and human-caused disasters, including
36 those described in paragraph (a) of this subsection; and

37 (B) Life outcomes for adults and youths living in Oregon, including those described in
38 paragraph (a) of this subsection;

39 (d) Evaluate methods for strengthening and expanding existing psychological, emotional
40 and psychosocial resilience education and skills training programs, and launching new ones,
41 to ensure that all adults and youths living in Oregon have access to such programs by 2025;

42 (e) Evaluate how making psychological, emotional and psychosocial resilience education
43 and skills training available to all adults and youths in Oregon can complement existing pri-
44 vate, nonprofit, local, county, state and federal programs, including programs focused on
45 building external physical resilience for disasters, increasing mental and physical health and

1 **reducing carbon emissions; and**

2 **(f) Make recommendations on how to expand psychological, emotional and psychosocial**
 3 **resilience education and skills training to ensure that all adults and youths living in Oregon**
 4 **have access to such education and training by 2025.**

5 **(4) The task force may, in carrying out its duties, consult with, obtain information from**
 6 **and receive assistance from any advisers or other persons or entities as the task force deems**
 7 **necessary or advisable. The task force may use information obtained from any source to**
 8 **carry out its duties.**

9 **(5) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction**
 10 **of business, but the task force may hold hearings with a lesser number of members present.**

11 **(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**
 12 **of the task force.**

13 **(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority of the vacant position**
 14 **shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.**

15 **(8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the cochair of**
 16 **the task force. The initial meeting of the task force must take place no later than 30 days**
 17 **after the date that a majority of the members of the task force have been appointed.**

18 **(9)(a) The task force may seek and accept funding, staff support and other resources for**
 19 **its operation from Trauma Informed Oregon at Portland State University and agree to con-**
 20 **ditions placed on such resources not inconsistent with the duties of the task force.**

21 **(b) The task force may not request or accept moneys directly from the State of Oregon**
 22 **for its operation.**

23 **(10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

24 **(11) The task force shall submit a report on its findings, which may include recommen-**
 25 **dations for legislation, to the standing or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly**
 26 **related to emergency preparedness no later than May 2, 2022. The task force shall make its**
 27 **report publicly available at the same time it submits the report to committees of the Legis-**
 28 **lative Assembly.**

29 **(12) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not**
 30 **entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task**
 31 **force.**

32 **(13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist**
 33 **the task force in the performance of the task force's duties and, to the extent permitted by**
 34 **laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task**
 35 **force consider necessary to perform their duties.**

36 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on June 30, 2022.**

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