

HB 2896 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

Prepared By: Cassie Passon, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Office of Emergency Management to conduct yearly multidisciplinary, all-hazards emergency response exercise. Requires each state agency to conduct yearly internal exercise to test emergency preparedness. Directs counties to hold quarterly tabletop emergency response exercise. Allows Office of Emergency Management to assist local government with cost of exercises.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, Oregon follows the federal Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) for its emergency response exercises. The program is a cycle of exercise design and development, conducting the exercise, evaluating the exercise, and improvement planning based on the exercise, all of which are overseen by a program management team. The HSEEP provides a common methodology, which can enable better interoperability and collaboration between jurisdictions.

House Bill 2896 directs the Office of Emergency Management to conduct annual multidisciplinary, all hazard emergency response exercises and for each state agency to conduct yearly internal exercises that test at least one element of their emergency preparedness. The bill also directs counties to conduct quarterly tabletop scenario-based exercises related to emergency response.