

Emailed April 25, 2021

Attn:

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson
Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield
Co-Vice Chair Senate Republican Leader Fred Girod
Co-Vice Chair Representative David Gomberg
Co-Vice Chair Representative Greg Smith

Re: Support for ORSAP Funding HB 5028

Dear Ways and Means Committee Members,

By fully funding HB 5028 the Legislature will realize its goal in passing HB 2206 to train, certify and dispatch volunteer architects and engineers to assess building damage following a disaster. The fiscal impact of HB 2206-A was determined to be \$619,356 per Biennium. Unfortunately, the bill only provides \$300,000 in funding.

Congress passed the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 in October. It requires that all states implement post-disaster building assessment programs as a condition for recovery funding. The guidelines are now being formulated, but FEMA has been moving towards this goal, so it is essential to have an effective program in place.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

Sincerely,



Jay Raskin, FAIA
Former Chair OSSPAC

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2206 - A

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*Prepared by: Meg Bushman-Reinhold
Reviewed by: Julie Neburka, Ken Rocco, Matt Stayner
Date: April 4, 2019**Measure Description:**

Directs the State Fire Marshal to develop and administer a statewide program to evaluate the condition of buildings after an emergency and determine whether the buildings may be safely occupied.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), Oregon Military Department (OMD), Counties, Cities, Oregon State Police (OSP)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2019-21 Biennium	2021-23 Biennium
General Fund	\$472,020	\$619,356
Lottery Funds		
Other Funds		
Federal Funds		
Total Funds	\$472,020	\$619,356
Positions	3	3
FTE	2.25	3.00

Analysis:

This bill directs the State Fire Marshal (SFM), a division of the Oregon State Police (OSP), to develop and administer a statewide program, called the Oregon Safety Assessment Program (OrSAP), to evaluate the condition of buildings after an emergency and determine whether the buildings may be safely occupied. Local governments may opt in to the program.

Oregon State Police

The SFM will implement a statewide emergency registry system that includes local government coordinators, certified building evaluators and approved trainers. SFM will consult with local governments, relevant agencies and professional organizations.

Oregon State Police estimates that the State Fire Marshal's Office will need three full-time, permanent positions, starting January 1, 2020 to fulfill the requirements of this bill: one Facilities Engineer 3 (0.75 FTE), one Program Analyst 4 (0.75 FTE), and one Administrative Specialist 2 (0.75 FTE). The Facilities Engineer 3 and the Program Analyst 4 will have significant training and travel costs to travel around the state and certify and provide OrSAP training to local governments, relevant agencies and professional organizations. General Fund costs are estimated to be \$472,020 for 2.25 FTE for the 2019-21 biennium and \$629,356 for 3.00 FTE for the 2021-23 biennium.

Cities and Counties

Local governments may opt in to this program. Where a local program is in place, owners of buildings in these areas, prior to an emergency, will enter into agreements with private qualified professionals to conduct building inspections following an emergency. Local governments will approve agreements between building owners and qualified professionals. The cost to local governments that opt in will vary based on the number of buildings in the locality. The cost to local governments that opt in to this program is indeterminate.

Oregon Military Department

This bill adds building evaluators certified under OrSAP to the definition of qualified emergency service volunteers under ORS 401.358. The Oregon Military Department (OMD) provides workers compensation insurance coverage for qualified emergency service volunteers. Adding this group of evaluators to the pool of insured volunteers could increase the workers compensation insurance premiums paid for by OMD. The cost of this bill to OMD is indeterminate, but likely minimal.

Department of Consumer and Business Services

The State Fire Marshal is directed to consult with the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) in developing this program. The Building Codes Division of DCBS can absorb any assistance provided with existing resources. This bill will have a minimal impact on DCBS.