



Oregon  
Construction  
Coalition



Honorable Representative Paul Evans, Chair  
Veterans and Emergency Management Committee

Committee Members

The Oregon Construction Coalition represents workers and contractors engaged in safe, durable and quality construction. Our workers and members represent construction groups in all aspects of development. For the built environment, we support codes, standards, training, education and enforcement to ensure regulations are met by those entities engaged in construction. We support predictable and consistent standards for training and construction practices that are uniformly enforced.

One of the key principles of our uniform system of regulation is that cost causers pay the cost of government services. Specifically, building permit and plan review fees pay for inspection services, worker and contractor licensing fees pay for licensure and enforcement and training and education is paid by workers and businesses that are licensed, certified and trained.

HB 2881 appears to ask the permit and inspection side of our industry to pay for training and education programs at the state fire marshal’s office (OSFM). Under current law, OSFM is required to develop a system of registration of local program coordinators, certified building evaluators and approved trainers engaged in the review of buildings after an emergency event to determine safe occupancy of an existing building.

We are very familiar with the nature and historical use of building permit monies, the nexus of plan review dollars to the construction process, but we are less familiar with the budget of OSFM, how their programs operate and the use of those monies or any restrictions of dedicated funds. We can get up to speed and engage in those budgets, but to-date OSFM has not reached out to our group to discuss this program or its financial needs.

We appreciate your desire to help OSFM stand up this program and are happy to work with the appropriate individuals to better understand the budget needs, but also whether there is a more direct or appropriate source to cover the cost of this program.

Please feel free to contact any member of our coalition. Thank you.

