



OREGON MILITARY DEPARTMENT
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS, OREGON NATIONAL GUARD
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
1776 MILITIA WAY
P.O. BOX 14350
SALEM, OREGON 97309-5047

February 17, 2021

House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Management
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE Room 453
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Members,

This letter is to share an update on work being conducted jointly by the Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) surrounding HB 2237 and HB 2890. Neither OEM nor OHA have a position on either bill.

HB 2237 calls on the Office of Emergency Management to “*create and maintain a roster of individuals available for temporary emergency-related work*” and HB 2890 calls on the Office of Emergency Management to “*create and maintain a registry of persons able and willing to provide services related to emergency response*”.

In reviewing these bills OEM reached out to OHA to determine whether the SERV-OR system could serve as the backbone technical system to house the roster/registry information being requested by both bills. For background SERV-OR is a database of licensed health care professional who are registered to volunteer in response to Federal, State, and/or local emergencies. The SERV-OR registry allows these licensed volunteers to join State and Local volunteer groups.

Through joint conversations OHA indicated that SERV-OR **could** meet the technical system needs outlined in the legislation. This could help create continuity in terms of a single tool used statewide to manage and track volunteers who could be called upon during an emergency.

In these conversations OHA was clear that there would be ongoing maintenance costs charged to OEM associated with using the SERV-OR system for this purpose, and that OEM would need dedicated staffing to manage the volunteers and work to get them registered within the system. Without funding for the system maintenance and staffing needs within OEM SERV-OR would not be a feasible solution.

To provide perspective on cost, on an annual basis OHA spends approximately \$60,565 in maintenance costs related to SERV-OR. They also have one full time equivalent position to manage nearly 4,000 volunteers. Due to the potential size of the volunteer pool envisioned by HB 2237 and HB 2890 OEM is developing a Fiscal Impact Statement to request three permanent full time equivalent positions and dedicated funding to help support the maintenance costs of the SERV-OR system.

Thank You

Sean McCormick
Chief Financial Officer / Legislative Coordinator
Oregon Military Department