

HB 2902 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 2/13, 3/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires schools to instruct students for at least 3 hours per year on preparing for and recovering from fires; earthquakes, including tsunamis; and safety threats; as well as natural disasters specific to region where school is located. Requires Oregon Department of Education to develop a curriculum and provide professional development to teachers and administrators for the purposes of such training. Operative July 1, 2024.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Availability of classroom and teacher time for new instruction
- Instruction on disaster preparedness in addition to emergency response

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces measure. Encourages schools to instruct students on preparing for and recovering from fires; earthquakes, including tsunamis; safety threats; and region-specific natural disasters. Requires Oregon Department of Education to develop guidance for instruction in consultation with the Oregon Department of Emergency Management and provide professional development upon request.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 336.071 currently requires that each school instruct students on emergency procedures related to fires, earthquakes, and safety threats for at least 30 minutes in each school month. The requirements in House Bill 2902 would create a requirement in addition to the one currently in statute.

House Bill 2902 requires schools to provide at least 3 hours of instruction per year on preparing for and recovering from fires; earthquakes, including tsunamis; safety threats; and natural disasters specific to the school's region, and requires the Oregon Department of Education to develop and provide a curriculum and professional development for the purposes of that training.