

HB 3059 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

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Meeting Dates: 3/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Emergency Management to study emergency management and report findings to legislative committees by September 15, 2024.

NOTE - Measure is replaced by -1 amendment (see description below)

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces original measure. Establishes the Oregon Disaster Response Assistance Matching Fund for use in assisting local governments meet matching fund requirement for federal grants or other federal aid or to assist in disaster response efforts. Directs Legislative Revenue Officer to conduct study of a means of granting a tax benefit to emergency management volunteers and submit report of findings to interim revenue committees of Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024. Sunsets Legislative Revenue Officer study January 2, 2025. Establishes the Compliance Division within the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM) and directs Department to appoint a compliance officer and outlines duties of Compliance Division. Broadens authorization for agencies to grant leaves of absence to all volunteers that participate in disaster relief or recovery services, not just those certified by the American Red Cross. Directs ODEM to provide technical assistance to public and private local entities that are active in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery; specifies types of assistance that may be included; allows ODEM to contract with third party entities to provide assistance to local entities; and allocates an unspecified amount from the General Fund to ODEM to provide assistance. Directs ODEM to identify existing long-term recovery groups in Oregon and provide grants for their support; defines "long-term recovery group;" and appropriates an unspecified amount from the General Fund to provide grants. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Emergency Management is tasked with maintaining and coordinating a statewide, multi-level system of services for emergency, disaster, and search and rescue communications. The Department administers the State 9-1-1 Program, awards grants to local governments for resilience and emergency management purposes, and houses both the Drought Council and the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission.