House Bill 2827
Sponsored by Representative EVANS (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY
The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Directs Oregon Department of Emergency Management to develop and maintain grant program to harden community facilities against man-made and natural disasters. Establishes Community Facility Hardening Fund.

A BILL FOR AN ACT
Relating to a grant program to improve the resiliency of community facilities.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:
(a) “Community facility” means a facility owned or operated by an eligible applicant.
(b) “Eligible applicant” means:
(A) A county; or
(B) A private organization qualified for federal tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
(c) “Hardening” includes repairing, replacing or upgrading the structural components of a facility or carrying out other activities for the purpose of making facilities more resilient to wildfire, extreme weather, flooding, earthquake or other man-made or natural disasters.
(2) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall develop and administer a program to provide grants to eligible applicants for hardening community facilities against man-made or natural disasters.
(3) Eligible applicants shall submit grant applications to the department in the form and manner prescribed by the department. The department shall rank applications based on the criteria established under subsection (4) of this section and award grants based on rankings and available funds. If the department denies a grant application, the department shall provide the reason for the denial to the eligible applicant in writing.
(4)(a) The department shall establish by rule criteria for ranking grant applications under the grant program. Criteria shall include, but need not be limited to:
(A) The level of need for the requested hardening activities, as demonstrated by the eligible applicant;
(B) The types of man-made or natural disasters likely to be experienced in the region where the community facility is located;
(C) Whether the community facility will be, or is likely to be, used for providing or supporting emergency services; and
(D) Whether the applicant has an alternative means of funding the hardening activities.
(b) The department shall adopt rules to implement the grant program. Rules adopted under this paragraph shall include, but need not be limited to:

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

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(A) Policies and procedures for the grant application process;
(B) Terms and conditions of grant agreements entered into by the department and grant recipients; and
(C) Procedures for verifying that grant funds have been used for the purposes for which they were awarded.

SECTION 2. The Community Facility Hardening Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Community Facility Hardening Fund shall be credited to the fund. Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management for the purpose of carrying out section 1 of this 2023 Act.