

A-Engrossed House Bill 3059

Ordered by the House April 10
Including House Amendments dated April 10

Sponsored by Representative EVANS

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.

[Requires Oregon Department of Emergency Management to study emergency management. Directs department to submit findings to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to emergency management not later than September 15, 2024.]

Establishes Oregon Disaster Response Assistance Matching Fund. Provides that moneys in fund may be used to issue grants to local governments to make matching contributions necessary to access federal aid or issue grants to assist or support disaster response efforts.

Requires Legislative Revenue Officer to study granting tax benefit to emergency management volunteers. Directs officer to submit report of findings to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to revenue not later than September 15, 2024.

Establishes Compliance Division within Oregon Department of Emergency Management to ensure compliance with requirements and regulations relating to moneys received from federal government.

Expands statute allowing certain public bodies to grant paid leave of absence to public employee who volunteers to participate in disaster relief or recovery services in state.

Directs department to provide technical assistance to local entities that are active in emergency preparedness, response or recovery.

Directs department to issue grants for support of community organizations active in disaster in Oregon.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to emergency management; creating new provisions; amending ORS 401.378; and declaring
3 an emergency.

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

OREGON DISASTER RESPONSE ASSISTANCE MATCHING FUND

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8 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Disaster Response Assistance Matching Fund is established**
9 **in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The Oregon Disaster**
10 **Response Assistance Matching Fund consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited**
11 **or transferred to the fund by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. Moneys in the fund are**
12 **continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management for the**
13 **purposes specified in subsections (2) and (3) of this section.**

14 **(2) When the receipt of federal grants or other federal aid related to disaster response**
15 **is conditioned on the contribution of matching funds by the recipient, the department may**
16 **provide grants from the fund to local governments to be used to contribute such matching**
17 **funds.**

18 **(3) The department may provide grants from the fund to local governments in order 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.

1 assist or support disaster response efforts.

2 (4) The department may adopt rules necessary for the administration of this section.

3 (5) As used in this section, "local government" has the meaning given that term in ORS
4 174.116.

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6 **VOLUNTEER TAX BENEFITS**
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8 **SECTION 2.** The Legislative Revenue Officer shall conduct a study of potential means of
9 granting a tax benefit to emergency management volunteers. Not later than September 15,
10 2024, the officer shall submit a report of the findings of the study, in the manner provided
11 by ORS 192.245, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to revenue,
12 and may include recommendations for legislation in the report.

13 **SECTION 3.** Section 2 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.
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15 **OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE DIVISION**
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17 **SECTION 4.** (1) There is established the Compliance Division as an administrative divi-
18 sion of the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. The Director of the Oregon De-
19 partment of Emergency Management shall appoint a compliance officer to lead the division.
20 The compliance officer serves at the pleasure of and at the direction of the director. The
21 director may appoint additional staff to the division as the director deems necessary for the
22 division to carry out its duties.

23 (2) The Compliance Division shall:

24 (a) Ensure that the department is in compliance with requirements and regulations re-
25 lating to moneys received from the federal government, including ensuring compliance by
26 grantees or subgrantees;

27 (b) Prepare and maintain documentation related to compliance;

28 (c) Establish monitoring and reporting requirements as necessary to ensure compliance;

29 (d) Identify compliance risks and direct and supervise corrective actions to mitigate such
30 risks; and

31 (e) Serve as liaison between the department and federal officials.

32 (3) Public bodies, as defined in ORS 174.109, shall promptly provide to the Compliance
33 Division any books, records or other documentation that the division determines to be nec-
34 essary to carry out its duties.
35

36 **VOLUNTEER PAID LEAVE**
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38 **SECTION 5.** ORS 401.378 is amended to read:

39 401.378. [(1)] State agencies and political subdivisions described in ORS 243.325 (2) to (6) may
40 grant leaves of absence to any public employee who [*is a certified disaster services volunteer of the*
41 *American Red Cross*] **volunteers** to participate in disaster relief **or recovery** services in the State
42 of Oregon. Cumulative leave granted shall not exceed 15 work days in any 12-month period. Such
43 leave granted shall not result in a loss of compensation, seniority, vacation time, sick leave or ac-
44 crued overtime for which the employee is otherwise eligible. Compensation to an employee granted
45 leave under this section shall be at the employee's regular rate of pay for those regular work hours

1 during which the employee is absent from work.

2 (2) *As used in this section, “disaster” means those disasters designated at level II and above by*
3 *the American Red Cross.*

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5 **SUPPORT TO LOCAL ENTITIES**

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7 **SECTION 6.** (1) **The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall provide technical assistance, as described in subsection (2) of this section, to local entities, whether**
8 **public or private, that are active in emergency preparedness, response or recovery in**
9 **Oregon, including:**

- 10
11 (a) **County, city and tribal emergency management agencies;**
12 (b) **Community organizations active in disaster;**
13 (c) **Long-term recovery groups; and**
14 (d) **Disaster mitigation and recovery managers.**

15 (2) **Technical assistance provided under this section may include, without limitation, assistance with:**

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17 (a) **Fundraising or grant writing;**
18 (b) **Incorporation or other organization;**
19 (c) **Navigating political relationships;**
20 (d) **Interacting with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including ensuring**
21 **proper form and content of paperwork submitted to the agency;**
22 (e) **Culturally specific outreach; and**
23 (f) **Branding.**

24 (3) **The department may contract with third parties to carry out its duties under this**
25 **section.**

26 (4) **The department shall adopt rules necessary for the administration of this section.**

27 **SECTION 7.** **In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, for the biennium beginning July**
28 **1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$___ to carry out its duties under section 6**
29 **of this 2023 Act.**

30
31 **SECTION 8.** (1) **As used in this section, “community organization active in disaster”**
32 **means a cooperative organization comprising representatives of nonprofit, governmental,**
33 **business and faith-based entities that works within a local community to prepare for, build**
34 **resilience against and recover from emergencies by performing functions including any of the**
35 **following:**

- 36 (a) **Providing local coordination of federal or state support;**
37 (b) **Serving as a primary local disaster recovery organization;**
38 (c) **Assessing local needs following disaster and determining locally informed plans for**
39 **action;**
40 (d) **Facilitating communication with local communities, including vulnerable populations;**
41 (e) **Leveraging philanthropic and other private funding and coordinating with**
42 **philanthropic entities;**
43 (f) **Facilitating disaster case management, including providing a central hub for allocating**
44 **resources for unmet needs; and**
45 (g) **Providing emergency-related services and supports to the local community.**

