

Submitter: Bridget Good

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal
and World Affairs

Measure: HB2902

Dear Representative Gomberg, Senator Manning, and members of the session,

I support House Bill 2902. My name is Bridget Good. I have volunteered with the City of Salem's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) since 2015 and have a passion for motivating Oregon communities to prepare for a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and tsunami. I've spent years developing and hosting a free, informational, science-based website on the subject, wrote a novel, and helped set up the Salem Resiliency Series in 2019 in hopes of sparking motivation. Yet, I believe efforts like mine won't influence the greatest degree of preparedness within Oregon communities. It's a degree most likely to be propagated by schools and by children.

The stories of Okawa Elementary and what's been termed the "Kamaishi miracle" during Japan's 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami are powerful examples of the consequences of providing—and not providing—quality education on how to prepare for and respond to disasters. This bill takes that effort in the right direction, offering a more comprehensive curriculum. Enacted, it would better prepare children, school staff, and families. That culture of preparedness would reverberate throughout the community.

The 2012 USGS research paper, Turbidite Event History—Methods and Implications for Holocene Paleoseismicity of the Cascadia Subduction Zone, states: "Failure analysis suggests that by the year 2060, Cascadia will have exceeded... 85 percent of recurrence intervals for the southern margin." The Pacific Northwest has already gone longer without an event than 81 percent of recurrence intervals in the past 10,000 years. If only the most recent 6,030 years are taken into consideration, the region has surpassed 93 percent of recurrence intervals for the southern margin.

For the reasons stated above, I support this bill in its entirety. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm Regards,

Bridget Good