



Legislative Fiscal Office
 82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly
 2024 Regular Session

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 Reviewed by: April McDonald
 Date: February 7, 2024

Bill Title: Relating to seismic hazards; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Environmental Quality

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2023-25 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Environmental Quality	\$ 325,513	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 325,513	-	-
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 325,513	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 325,513	-	0.00

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Environmental Quality	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00

Measure Description

The measure directs the Department of Environmental Quality to study the risks related to earthquake-induced toxic inhalation. The Department must submit a report on the study to the Legislative Assembly by December 1, 2024, and is allowed to submit recommendations for subsequent legislation to emergency management committees of the Legislative Assembly no later than March 1, 2025.

Fiscal Analysis

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will engage an appropriate research institution to conduct a study in alignment with the objectives specified in HB 4044-1. The estimated one-time cost of this work in the 2023-25 biennium is \$325,513 General Fund, which would cover the total cost of procuring and administering a contract with the research institution to deliver the study. No additional positions or FTE are necessary for DEQ to support this work. The estimated time for existing staff to administer the contract and collaborate with the contracted vendor represents an estimated two and a half months over the course of the study.

DEQ and the contracted vendor will employ appropriate methodologies to study geographic areas with high seismic risk, while also examining the number of statewide facilities and considering the total population at risk. The study will model various scenarios of uncontrolled hazardous material release from identified facilities following an earthquake. The Hazardous Waste and Tank Seismic Stability programs within DEQ will provide consultation and information to the research institution contracted for the study. Furthermore, DEQ will conduct a policy review of seismic requirements and mitigation programs, along with a literature review of mitigation solutions, including an engineering assessment.

Relevant Dates

On or before December 1, 2024, the department shall submit a report on the findings of the study to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to emergency management.

On or before March 1, 2025, the department may submit recommendations for legislation to the standing or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to emergency management.

The provision requiring the study is repealed on January 2, 2026.

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.