

**B-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 4033**

Ordered by the House February 27  
Including House Amendments dated February 16 and February 27

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Emergency Management and Veterans for Representative Thuy Tran)

**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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act puts ODEM in charge of the volunteer database known as ORVID. The Act tells ODEM to adapt the database in specified ways. (Flesch Readability Score: 67.7).

Transfers responsibility for the volunteer database known as ORVID from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Directs the department to adapt and maintain the database.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to emergency volunteers; and declaring an emergency.

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

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5 **TRANSFER**

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7 **SECTION 1. (1) The duties, functions and powers of the Higher Education Coordinating**  
8 **Commission relating to the volunteer database known as ORVID are imposed upon, trans-**  
9 **ferred to and vested in the Oregon Department of Emergency Management.**

10 **(2) The department shall adapt and maintain the database in a manner consistent with**  
11 **section 9 of this 2026 Act.**

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13 **RECORDS, PROPERTY, EMPLOYEES**

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15 **SECTION 2. (1) The executive director of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission**  
16 **shall:**

17 **(a) Deliver to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management all records and prop-**  
18 **erty within the jurisdiction of the commission that relate to the duties, functions and powers**  
19 **transferred by section 1 of this 2026 Act; and**

20 **(b) Transfer to the department those employees engaged primarily in the exercise of the**  
21 **duties, functions and powers transferred by section 1 of this 2026 Act.**

22 **(2) The Director of the Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall take pos-**  
23 **session of the records and property, and shall take charge of the employees and employ them**  
24 **in the exercise of the duties, functions and powers transferred by section 1 of this 2026 Act,**  
25 **without reduction of compensation but subject to change or termination of employment or**

**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 compensation as provided by law.

2 (3) The Governor shall resolve any dispute between the commission and the department  
3 relating to transfers of records, property and employees under this section, and the  
4 Governor's decision is final.

5  
6 **UNEXPENDED REVENUES**  
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8 **SECTION 3.** (1) The unexpended balances of amounts authorized to be expended by the  
9 Higher Education Coordinating Commission for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, from re-  
10 venues dedicated, continuously appropriated, appropriated or otherwise made available for  
11 the purpose of administering and enforcing the duties, functions and powers transferred by  
12 section 1 of this 2026 Act are transferred to and are available for expenditure by the Oregon  
13 Department of Emergency Management for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for the pur-  
14 pose of administering and enforcing the duties, functions and powers transferred by section  
15 1 of this 2026 Act.

16 (2) The expenditure classifications, if any, established by Acts authorizing or limiting  
17 expenditures by the commission remain applicable to expenditures by the department under  
18 this section.

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20 **ACTION, PROCEEDING, PROSECUTION**  
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22 **SECTION 4.** The transfer of duties, functions and powers to the Oregon Department of  
23 Emergency Management by section 1 of this 2026 Act does not affect any action, proceeding  
24 or prosecution involving or with respect to the duties, functions and powers begun before  
25 and pending at the time of the transfer, except that the department is substituted for the  
26 Higher Education Coordinating Commission in the action, proceeding or prosecution.

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28 **LIABILITY, DUTY, OBLIGATION**  
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30 **SECTION 5.** (1) Nothing in sections 1 to 4 of this 2026 Act relieves a person of a liability,  
31 duty or obligation accruing under or with respect to the duties, functions and powers  
32 transferred by section 1 of this 2026 Act. The Oregon Department of Emergency Management  
33 may undertake the collection or enforcement of any such liability, duty or obligation.

34 (2) The rights and obligations of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission legally  
35 incurred under contracts, leases and business transactions executed, entered into or begun  
36 before the operative date of section 1 of this 2026 Act accruing under or with respect to the  
37 duties, functions and powers transferred by section 1 of this 2026 Act are transferred to the  
38 department. For the purpose of succession to these rights and obligations, the department  
39 is a continuation of the commission and not a new authority.

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41 **RULES**  
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43 **SECTION 6.** Notwithstanding the transfer of duties, functions and powers by section 1  
44 of this 2026 Act, the rules of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission with respect to  
45 such duties, functions or powers that are in effect on the operative date of section 1 of this

1 2026 Act continue in effect until superseded or repealed by rules of the Oregon Department  
2 of Emergency Management. References in the rules of the commission to the commission  
3 or an officer or employee of the commission are considered to be references to the depart-  
4 ment or an officer or employee of the department.

5 **SECTION 7.** Whenever, in any uncodified law or resolution of the Legislative Assembly  
6 or in any rule, document, record or proceeding authorized by the Legislative Assembly, in  
7 the context of the duties, functions and powers transferred by section 1 of this 2026 Act,  
8 reference is made to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, or an officer or em-  
9 ployee of the commission whose duties, functions or powers are transferred by section 1 of  
10 this 2026 Act, the reference is considered to be a reference to the Oregon Department of  
11 Emergency Management, or an officer or employee of the department who by this 2026 Act  
12 is charged with carrying out the duties, functions and powers.

13  
14 **OPERATIVE DATE**

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16 **SECTION 8.** (1) The Director of the Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall  
17 notify the standing or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative  
18 Counsel when the transfer described in section 1 of this 2026 Act is complete.

19 (2) Sections 1 to 7 of this 2026 Act become operative on the day after the date the no-  
20 tifications described in subsection (1) of this section are complete.

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22 **DUTIES OF OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

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24 **SECTION 9.** (1) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall maintain a  
25 statewide registry of persons who are willing and able to volunteer to perform emergency  
26 service activities, as defined in ORS 401.358. The registry may include:

27 (a) Qualified emergency service volunteers, as defined in ORS 401.358;

28 (b) Persons registered as volunteers with a local government, as defined in ORS 174.116,  
29 or a tribal entity, including members of community emergency response teams and neigh-  
30 borhood emergency teams;

31 (c) Persons experienced in construction or other skilled trades;

32 (d) Persons certified by the State Fire Marshal as building evaluators under the Oregon  
33 Safety Assessment Program established under ORS 401.256; and

34 (e) Other persons that the department determines are able to assist in emergency re-  
35 sponse and recovery.

36 (2) As a condition of inclusion on the registry, the department may require:

37 (a) Evidence of relevant qualifications; and

38 (b) Training related to emergency response and recovery, including incident management  
39 or command.

40 (3) The registry must include, for each person:

41 (a) The person's name and contact information;

42 (b) The physical location where the person is based; and

43 (c) Specialized training or skills related to emergency response and recovery that the  
44 person has.

45 (4) The registry must be accessible to emergency management agencies and emergency

1 program managers described in ORS 401.305. The department may make the registry ac-  
2 cessible to any other persons or entities if the department determines that providing such  
3 access will enhance public safety.

4 (5) The department is authorized to issue badges to volunteers listed in the registry that  
5 describe a volunteer's skills, training, licenses, certifications or other information relevant  
6 to the performance of emergency service activities.

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8 **FISCAL PROVISION**

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10 **SECTION 10.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation  
11 made to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management by section 1 (2), chapter 423,  
12 Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for Preparedness and Response, is  
13 increased by \$32,600, to carry out the provisions of sections 1 and 9 of this 2026 Act.

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15 **CAPTIONS**

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17 **SECTION 11.** The unit captions used in this 2026 Act are provided only for the conven-  
18 ience of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any  
19 legislative intent in the enactment of this 2026 Act.

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21 **EFFECTIVE DATE**

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23 **SECTION 12.** This 2026 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
24 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2026 Act takes effect  
25 on its passage.  
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