

House Bill 4033

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession 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 **as introduced**. 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

Relating to emergency volunteers; and declaring an emergency.

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

TRANSFER

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

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

RECORDS, PROPERTY, EMPLOYEES

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

(a) Deliver to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management all records and property within the jurisdiction of the commission that relate to the duties, functions and powers transferred by section 1 of this 2026 Act; and

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

(2) The Director of the Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall take possession of the records and property, and shall take charge of the employees and employ them in the exercise of the duties, functions and powers transferred by section 1 of this 2026 Act, without reduction of compensation but subject to change or termination of employment or compensation as provided by law.

(3) The Governor shall resolve any dispute between the commission and the department relating to transfers of records, property and employees under this section, and the

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 Governor's decision is final.

2
3 UNEXPENDED REVENUES
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5 **SECTION 3.** (1) The unexpended balances of amounts authorized to be expended by the
6 Higher Education Coordinating Commission for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, from re-
7 venues dedicated, continuously appropriated, appropriated or otherwise made available for
8 the purpose of administering and enforcing the duties, functions and powers transferred by
9 section 1 of this 2026 Act are transferred to and are available for expenditure by the Oregon
10 Department of Emergency Management for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for the pur-
11 pose of administering and enforcing the duties, functions and powers transferred by section
12 1 of this 2026 Act.

13 (2) The expenditure classifications, if any, established by Acts authorizing or limiting
14 expenditures by the commission remain applicable to expenditures by the department under
15 this section.
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17 ACTION, PROCEEDING, PROSECUTION
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19 **SECTION 4.** The transfer of duties, functions and powers to the Oregon Department of
20 Emergency Management by section 1 of this 2026 Act does not affect any action, proceeding
21 or prosecution involving or with respect to the duties, functions and powers begun before
22 and pending at the time of the transfer, except that the department is substituted for the
23 Higher Education Coordinating Commission in the action, proceeding or prosecution.
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25 LIABILITY, DUTY, OBLIGATION
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27 **SECTION 5.** (1) Nothing in sections 1 to 4 of this 2026 Act relieves a person of a liability,
28 duty or obligation accruing under or with respect to the duties, functions and powers
29 transferred by section 1 of this 2026 Act. The Oregon Department of Emergency Management
30 may undertake the collection or enforcement of any such liability, duty or obligation.

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

38 RULES
39

40 **SECTION 6.** Notwithstanding the transfer of duties, functions and powers by section 1
41 of this 2026 Act, the rules of the Higher Education Coordinating Commission with respect to
42 such duties, functions or powers that are in effect on the operative date of section 1 of this
43 2026 Act continue in effect until superseded or repealed by rules of the Oregon Department
44 of Emergency Management. References in the rules of the commission to the commission
45 or an officer or employee of the commission are considered to be references to the depart-

ment or an officer or employee of the department.

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

OPERATIVE DATE

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

(2) Sections 1 to 7 of this 2026 Act become operative on the day after the date the notifications described in subsection (1) of this section are complete.

DUTIES OF OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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

- (a) Qualified emergency service volunteers, as defined in ORS 401.358;
- (b) Persons registered as volunteers with a local government, as defined in ORS 174.116, or a tribal entity, including members of community emergency response teams and neighborhood emergency teams;
- (c) Persons experienced in construction or other skilled trades;
- (d) Persons certified by the State Fire Marshal as building evaluators under the Oregon Safety Assessment Program established under ORS 401.256; and
- (e) Other persons that the department determines are able to assist in emergency response and recovery.

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

- (a) Evidence of relevant qualifications; and
- (b) Training related to emergency response and recovery, including incident management or command.
- (3) The registry must include, for each person:
 - (a) The person's name and contact information;
 - (b) The physical location where the person is based; and
 - (c) Specialized training or skills related to emergency response and recovery that the person has.

(4) The registry must be accessible to emergency management agencies and emergency program managers described in ORS 401.305. The department may make the registry accessible to any other persons or entities if the department determines that providing such access will enhance public safety.

(5) The department shall establish procedures for collaborating with appropriate entities, including the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, the Department of Human Services, the Oregon Health Authority and local governments, for the purposes of:

(a) Gathering information for the registry, integrating data from existing databases into the registry and regularly updating the information; and

(b) Recruiting, training, mobilizing and deploying volunteers for emergency management purposes.

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

CAPTIONS

SECTION 10. The unit captions used in this 2026 Act are provided only for the convenience of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any legislative intent in the enactment of this 2026 Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 11. This 2026 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2026 Act takes effect on its passage.