

House Bill 3121

Sponsored by Representative THATCHER (at the request of Mark Dodge)

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**.

Directs Office of Emergency Management of Department of State Police to create Statewide Citizen Corps Advisory Council. Directs office and advisory council to advise, support and assist development of citizen resources prepared to respond to all-hazards prevention, protection, response and recovery.

Requires employers to grant leave of absence to employees volunteering through citizen corps councils or identified related programs.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to citizen corps.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Office of Emergency Management of the Department of State Police**
5 **by rule shall establish a Statewide Citizen Corps Advisory Council to advise, support and**
6 **assist the office and local citizen corps councils to engage citizens in all-hazards prevention,**
7 **protection, response and recovery including, but not limited to:**

8 (a) **Establishing appropriate leadership to form and sustain a system of local citizen corps**
9 **councils;**

10 (b) **Developing and implementing a plan, or amending existing plans, to achieve wide-**
11 **spread citizen preparedness and participation;**

12 (c) **Conducting public education and outreach;**

13 (d) **Ensuring clear emergency communications with the public;**

14 (e) **Developing training programs for the public;**

15 (f) **Facilitating citizen participation in emergency training exercises;**

16 (g) **Implementing volunteer programs and activities to support emergency responders;**

17 (h) **Involving citizens in surge capacity roles and responsibilities; and**

18 (i) **Conducting evaluations of programs and activities described in this section.**

19 (2) **The Statewide Citizen Corps Advisory Council shall coordinate all-hazards prevention,**
20 **protection, response and recovery activities with local citizen corps councils and with related**
21 **programs including, but not limited to:**

22 (a) **Community Emergency Response Team Program;**

23 (b) **Medical Reserve Corps;**

24 (c) **Neighborhood Watch Program;**

25 (d) **USAonWatch; and**

26 (e) **Volunteers in Police Service.**

27 (3) **In addition to the funding obtained through the Homeland Security Grant Program,**
28 **the Office of Emergency Management and the Statewide Citizen Corps Advisory Council may**
29 **seek funding to support the activities of the advisory council, local citizen corps councils and**

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 **related programs from a variety of sources including the private sector.**

2 **(4) An employer shall grant leave of absence to an individual who is providing disaster**
3 **relief services for a disaster, as defined in ORS 401.485, in the capacity of a citizen corps**
4 **council volunteer or a volunteer for one of the programs identified in subsection (2)(a) to (e)**
5 **of this section.**

6
