

# Senate Bill 1038

Sponsored by Senators MORRISETTE, VERGER

## 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**.

Requires certain state agencies to develop plans for mitigating effects of natural disasters and for recovery and reconstruction efforts after natural disaster has occurred. Authorizes certain state agencies to coordinate and consult with public and private organizations interested in disaster and recovery planning.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Office of Emergency Management for purposes of Act.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to disaster planning; and appropriating money.

3       Whereas the events of the Sumatra-Andaman earthquake in 2004 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005  
4 have shown that most communities are ill-prepared to undertake the long-term, post-disaster recov-  
5 ery and reconstruction efforts necessary to bring a community back following a catastrophic disas-  
6 ter; and

7       Whereas the importance of predisaster mitigation and long-term, post-disaster recovery in  
8 Oregon's communities is heightened because of this state's location along the Cascadia Subduction  
9 Zone, which separates the Juan de Fuca and North American plates; and

10       Whereas earthquakes generated along this fault, which stretches from northern California to  
11 mid-Vancouver Island, are among the largest earthquakes in the world; and

12       Whereas earthquakes, and resulting tsunamis, generated along this fault have the potential to  
13 catastrophically impact Oregon's coastal communities; and

14       Whereas many Oregon communities continue to experience difficulty in developing and imple-  
15 menting hazard risk reduction plans, policies and programs, despite the growing recognition of the  
16 need for long-term coordination to reduce risk from disasters; and

17       Whereas the loss of life and damage to property caused by catastrophic disasters can be miti-  
18 gated through planning; and

19       Whereas the Multihazard Mitigation Council of the National Institute of Building Sciences found  
20 that, on average, one dollar spent by the Federal Emergency Management Agency on actions to  
21 reduce disaster losses resulted in four dollars to the nation in future benefits; and

22       Whereas predisaster mitigation and post-disaster recovery are not just the responsibility of  
23 emergency managers and community planners; and

24       Whereas communities must have a plan and set of actions for successful predisaster mitigation  
25 and post-disaster recovery; and

26       Whereas the Oregon Natural Hazards Workgroup at the University of Oregon's Community  
27 Service Center has been leading the development of a resource network for risk reduction that em-  
28 powers and builds communities' capacity with direct service to communities to strive for disaster  
29 resilience and sustainability through the Partners for Disaster Resistance and Resilience; 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       Whereas the Oregon Natural Hazards Workgroup is leading the largest coordinated and  
 2 collaborative predisaster natural hazard mitigation planning effort in Oregon, which has resulted in  
 3 communities receiving more than \$14.5 million in federal moneys to fund mitigation projects; now,  
 4 therefore,

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

6       **SECTION 1.** Sections 2 and 3 of this 2007 Act are added to and made a part of ORS  
 7 chapter 401.

8       **SECTION 2.** (1) As used in this section, “catastrophic disaster” means natural phenom-  
 9 ena including, but not limited to, earthquakes and tsunamis.

10       (2) The University of Oregon, the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries,  
 11 the Land Conservation and Development Commission, Oregon State University and the Office  
 12 of Emergency Management shall, in conjunction with Oregon’s coastal counties, develop  
 13 plans for:

14       (a) Mitigating the effects of catastrophic disasters; and

15       (b) Recovery and reconstruction efforts after a catastrophic disaster has occurred.

16       (3) The University of Oregon, the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries,  
 17 the Land Conservation and Development Commission, Oregon State University and the Office  
 18 of Emergency Management shall consult with public and private agencies and organizations  
 19 interested in catastrophic disaster mitigation, recovery and reconstruction to:

20       (a) Develop local needs assessment reports identifying and prioritizing mitigation, recov-  
 21 ery and reconstruction issues facing local governments and coastal regions;

22       (b) Train state and local officials in mitigating the effects of catastrophic disasters and  
 23 in implementing effective recovery and reconstruction efforts after a catastrophic disaster  
 24 has occurred;

25       (c) Consider the relationship between land use, transportation systems and other  
 26 infrastructure in promoting safe and economically viable coastal communities;

27       (d) Coordinate information and resource sharing between local, state and federal agencies  
 28 and organizations;

29       (e) Review land use issues including, but not limited to, zoning and regulation that may  
 30 impact the mitigation of the effects of a catastrophic disaster or the process of recovery and  
 31 reconstruction after a catastrophic disaster has occurred;

32       (f) Identify efforts that could be coordinated at a state or national level to maximize cost  
 33 effectiveness;

34       (g) Develop plans or policies that meet or exceed the requirements of the Disaster Miti-  
 35 gation Act of 2000, 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.; and

36       (h) Consult with the Oregon Tourism Commission to address the care and protection of  
 37 tourists during and after a catastrophic disaster.

38       (4) The Office of Emergency Management shall coordinate with local governments in  
 39 Oregon’s coastal counties to develop, purchase and install catastrophic disaster warning de-  
 40 vices.

41       **SECTION 3.** In accordance with applicable provisions of ORS chapter 183, the Director  
 42 of the Office of Emergency Management may adopt rules necessary for the administration  
 43 of section 2 of this 2007 Act.

44       **SECTION 4.** There is appropriated to the Office of Emergency Management, for the  
 45 biennium beginning July 1, 2007, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the

1 **purpose of carrying out the provisions of sections 1 to 3 of this 2007 Act.**

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