

HB 2503 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/28, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Office of Emergency Management to study and make recommendations regarding the funding of search and rescue operations. Requires Office to submit a report on its findings by January 1, 2021.

NOTE - Measure has a subsequent referral to the Committee on Ways and Means

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Examples of search and rescue operations
- Search and rescue is an onerous cost for many rural counties
- training opportunities for search and rescue personnel

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM), housed within the Oregon Military Department, is the state's lead entity for coordination of statewide efforts to ensure that Oregonians can get help in an emergency, and to protect, mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural or man-made emergencies and disasters. OEM is organized around a set of 18 emergency support functions (ESFs): transportation; communications; public works; firefighting; information and planning; mass care; resource support; health and medical; search and rescue; hazardous materials; food and water; energy; military support; public information; volunteers and donations; law enforcement; agriculture and animal protection; and business and industry.