

HB 4041 -10 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: 2/4, 2/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Renames Office of Emergency Management as Oregon Department of Emergency Management and establishes department as state agency independent from Oregon Military Department. Vests and transfers certain authorities to Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Renames office of State Fire Marshal as Department of the State Fire Marshal and establishes department as state agency independent from Department of State Police. Vests and transfers certain authorities to Department of the State Fire Marshal. Adds seven members to the Oregon Homeland Security Council. Establishes Emergency Advisory Council to advise the Oregon Homeland Security Council. Establishes Local Government Emergency Management Advisory Council to advise the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Becomes operative July 1, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Local emergency management councils
- Department of Public Safety, Standards, and Training added to Homeland Security Council
- Disaster services leave protection
- Governor appointed positions

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-10 Replaces original measure. Reclassifies Director of the Office of Emergency Management as a Governor-appointed position confirmed by the Senate. Establishes Emergency Advisory Council to advise the State Resilience Officer. Establishes Local Government Emergency Management Advisory Council to advise the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Establishes Task Force on Emergency Management Restructuring.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) exists within the Oregon Military Department with the mission to lead collaborative state-wide efforts, inclusive of all partners and the communities they serve, to ensure capability to provide aid and assistance in an emergency and protect, mitigate, prepared for, respond to, and recover from emergencies or disasters regardless of cause.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) exists within the Oregon State Police Agency with the mission to protect citizens, their property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials.

House Bill 4041 removes OEM and OSFM from their parent agencies and establishes them as distinct departments within the Oregon Executive Branch. The bill also establishes two advisory councils designed to provide advice and recommendations relating to emergency preparedness and response functions.