

HB 2894 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/4, 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to create and maintain a database of known or suspected hazardous locations during an emergency. Directs office to allow state agencies and local law enforcement and emergency service providers access to database. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

Subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- League of Women Voters' desire to work with work group on bill

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House bill 2894 directs OEM create and maintain a database to notify users of known or suspected hazardous locations during an emergency; the database can only be used during, and up to 15 days after the termination of, a state of emergency declared under ORS 401.165 (declaration of state of emergency) or ORS 433.441 (proclamation of public health emergency). The bill requires OEM to provide access to the database to relevant state agencies, such as the Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Human Services and to provide local law enforcement and emergency service providers access to information relevant to the geographical area that they serve. The bill also requires that a user interface be created where a person can add to the database by noting locations that the person knows or has reason to believe present a heightened risk of disease, contagion or other hazard related to the declared emergency, including a description of the known or suspected hazard; and be able to search the database to determine whether a given location has previously been noted as a known or suspected hazardous location. OEM must also establish protocols for removing outdated information from the database and procedures to ensure the security of the information within the database.