

## **HB 2235 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management**

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**Prepared By:** Cassie Passon, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 3/16

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Office of Emergency Management to study and make recommendations on emergency workforce needs in the event of a major emergency. Requires office to submit report with recommendations to Legislative Assembly by December 1, 2021. Requires office to study and make recommendations on strategies to meet the work force levels outlined in previous study. Requires office to submit report with recommendations on strategies to meet the work force levels to Legislative Assembly by September 1, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

##### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

##### **BACKGROUND:**

House Bill 2235 directs the Office of Emergency Management to study the emergency workforce needs of the state in the event of major emergencies and to make recommendations on the estimated workforce levels needed to meet those needs. The measure directs the office to look at workforce needs for urban search and rescue, firefighting, unemployment assistance, 211 operators, social service providers, medical services, provision of shelter, maintenance of communications, food distribution, crowd control, traffic management, and law enforcement. While making these workforce estimates, the office must assume that there will be no regional or national help available; however, the office must also describe what workforce levels have historically been available through those sources. The office is also directed to study and make recommendation on strategies to meet the workforce levels it has recommended. In making its recommendations, the office must at least take into consideration private contractors, training of public officials to perform emergency functions, volunteers and temporary workforce, the Oregon National Guard, and reserve police officers and volunteer fire departments. The report submitted to the Legislative Assembly also must contain recommendations for strategies to develop and maintain the volunteer and temporary workforces and funding estimates to maintain the readiness of an emergency workforce.