

## HB 2927 -1, -2, -4, -6, -7, -8 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

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**Prepared By:** Cassie Passon, Counsel

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/11, 2/25, 3/4, 3/18, 4/8

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Renames Office of Emergency Management to Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM) and establishes Department as independent state agency. Transfers all unexpended balances for Office of Emergency Management within Oregon Military Department to Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Transfers Oregon Emergency Response System from Department of State Police to Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Confers to Oregon Department of Emergency Management certain emergency authorities regarding public health emergencies, emergency quarantines and conflagrations. Transfers rulemaking authority regarding nuclear emergencies from State Department of Energy to Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Directs ODEM to carry out certain functions related to regional and statewide emergency preparedness. Renames Office of State Fire Marshal to Department of State Fire Marshal (DSFM) and establishes Department as independent state agency. Transfers all unexpended balances for Office of State Fire Marshal within Department of State Police to Department of State Fire Marshal. Transfers search and rescue duties, functions, and powers from Oregon Department of Emergency Management to Department of State Fire Marshal. Transfers all unexpended balances for search and rescue functions within Oregon Department of Emergency Management to Department of State Fire Marshal. Requires State Fire Marshal to establish wildfire buffer zone guidelines to provide defensible space for lands in forestland-urban interfaces. Renames Oregon Homeland Security Council to Oregon Homeland Security Commission and transfers Commission to Office of the Governor. Modifies duties of Commission and adds members to Commission. Transfers all unexpended balances for Oregon Homeland Security Council within Oregon Department of Emergency Management to Office of the Governor for Oregon Homeland Security Commission. Establishes Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council to advise and make policy recommendations to Oregon Homeland Security Commission regarding federal emergency support functions. Established Local Government Emergency Management Advisory Council to provide advice and recommendations to Oregon Department of Emergency Management regarding department's emergency preparedness and response functions. Becomes operative on July 1, 2023.

#### *Subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means*

**REVENUE:** *No revenue impact*

**FISCAL:** *Fiscal impact issued*

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The need to think globally about supply chains
- Funding streams impacted by competing for resources
- Support package of bills
- All hazards approach to emergency management
- Need for organizational structure to be clearly defined
- Turning Emergency Coordination Center in to a 24/7 operation
- Began working on this reorganization in 2017
- Clarifies formal and informal roles; chain of command; each agency's role
- Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council being equal to Oregon Homeland Security Commission
- Need for a time line to ensure implementation

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- Plan to review implementation one year after full implementation is completed
- Amendment needed to fix two drafting errors to match previously agreed upon fixes
- Sheriffs will retain traditional search and rescue roles
- Conflagration matters to remain with the State Fire Marshal; work closely with the Department of Emergency Management
- 2020 displaying the need for reorganization
- Opportunity to enhance 911 data gathering
- Enhance emergency communications
- Modernizing Office of Emergency Management and Office of the State Fire Marshal
- Emergency Management work group
- After Action Report's areas for improvement in line with plan laid out in bill

### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces the measure. Renames Office of Emergency Management to Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM) and establishes Department as independent state agency. Transfers all unexpended balances for Office of Emergency Management within Oregon Military Department to Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Transfers Oregon Emergency Response System from Department of State Police to Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Confers to Oregon Department of Emergency Management certain emergency authorities regarding public health emergencies, emergency quarantines and conflagrations. Directs ODEM to carry out certain functions related to regional and statewide emergency preparedness. Renames Office of State Fire Marshal to Department of State Fire Marshal (DSFM) and establishes Department as independent state agency. Transfers all unexpended balances for Office of State Fire Marshal within Department of State Police to Department of State Fire Marshal. Requires State Fire Marshal to establish wildfire buffer zone guidelines to provide defensible space for lands in forestland-urban interfaces. Renames Oregon Homeland Security Council to Oregon Homeland Security Commission and transfers Commission to Office of the Governor. Modifies duties of Commission and adds members to Commission. Transfers all unexpended balances for Oregon Homeland Security Council within Oregon Department of Emergency Management to Office of the Governor for Oregon Homeland Security Commission. Establishes Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council to advise and make policy recommendations to Oregon Homeland Security Commission regarding federal emergency support functions. Established Local Government Emergency Management Advisory Council to provide advice and recommendations to Oregon Department of Emergency Management regarding department's emergency preparedness and response functions. Becomes operative on July 1, 2023.

-2 Removes requirement that State Fire Marshal establish guidelines for wildfire buffer zones that provide defensible space on lands in forestland-urban interface.

-4 Removes Section 25 regarding transfer of quarantine authority from the Director of Department of Agriculture to the Director of Department of Emergency Management; restores original statutory language.

-6 Removes Section 17 regarding public health emergencies; restores original statutory language. Removes Section 23 regarding authority of Director of Oregon Department of Emergency Management; restores original statutory language.

-7 Restores name of Oregon Homeland Security Council. Adds mission of the council. Modifies duties of council. Adds additional members to council. Removes Sections 149-150c regarding actions, proceedings, prosecutions, liability, duty, obligation, and name change of council; restores original statutory language. Add mission of Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council. Adds additional members to council. Allows Governor to appoint additional members as necessary. Modifies duties of council. Establishes Local Government Emergency Management Advisory Council with the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. Adds additional member

to council.

-8 Establishes Fire Marshal Task Force and requires task force to make recommendations to Legislative Assembly on whether office of State Fire Marshal (office) should be made an independent state agency or which state agency office should be housed in, by February 1, 2022. Requires task force to consist 14 members; two members from Senate, two members from House of Representatives, Governor's Public Safety Policy Advisor, State Resilience Officer, State Fire Marshal, one member to represent State Forestry Department, one member to represent fire chiefs in Oregon, one member to represent special districts, one member to represent firefighters employed by or under contract with a state agency, and four members from public at large. Requires office to become independent state agency by January 1, 2024.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Office of Emergency Management is located within the Oregon Military Department. The Director of the office is appointed by the Adjutant General, with the approval of the Governor. The Director is also a the liaison between the Governor's Disaster Cabinet and the State's Emergency Coordination Center. The Office of the State Fire Marshal is located within the Office of the State Police. The State Fire Marshal is appointed by, and serves at the pleasure of, the Superintendent of State Police.

The Oregon Homeland Security Council is part of the Office of Emergency Management. The council consists of two members from the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, two members from the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Governor, the Adjutant General, the Superintendent of State Police, the Director of the Office of Emergency Management, and a representative of the Department of Justice appointed by the Attorney General. The purpose of the council is to be briefed on security matters and to advise state agencies with responsibility for security matters on the future direction of the office's planning, preparedness, response and recovery activities.

House Bill 2927 renames the Office of Emergency Management and Office of the State Fire Marshal, and establishes each as an independent state agency. The measure also creates the Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council and the Local Government Emergency Management Advisory Council.