

## HB 2425 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

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**Action Date:** 03/11/21

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.  
(Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 5-1-0-0

**Yeas:** 5 - Evans, Grayber, Lewis, Meek, Wright

**Nays:** 1 - Wallan

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Cassie Passon, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 2/25, 3/11

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to develop and administer grant program to consolidate and modernize public safety answering points (PSAPs). Requires grant applications to include plan for consolidating two or more PSAPs into one and for modernization as specified. Requires grant application plans to specify that all equipment acquired for radio infrastructure will support interoperable two-way digital radio standards or is capable of being upgraded to support such standards. Requires grant application to show 9-1-1 system upgrades and radio infrastructure upgrades are either in compliance with Oregon Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan or are capable of being upgraded to bring them into compliance. Specifies entities that applications must be reviewed by. Allows OEM to approve up to two projects per biennium and provides for matching funds up to certain limit for modernization. Requires 9-1-1 jurisdiction to commit \$150,000 in matching funds to be eligible for grants for modernizing or upgrading software or hardware. Sets limit of \$50,000 for technical support to implement consolidation plan. Requires report from OEM to Legislative Assembly by December 1 of each year. Established PSAP Consolidation Fund. Sunsets January 2, 2041.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Consolidation funding in addition to regular funding
- PSAP funding streams
- Number of calls to 9-1-1 per year
- Number of PSAPs in Oregon; past and present
- Use of aging/redundant systems; maintenance costs
- Kimble Report
- Incompatible radio communication systems
- Cost saving versus cost avoidance with consolidation
- Emergency Management Work Group
- Communities that have already consolidated/upgraded before a fund was available

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

Public safety answering points (PSAPs) are the 9-1-1 call centers that receive, route, and manage emergency requests for, and communications between, police, fire, and emergency medical services (EMS) with jurisdiction over the caller's location. PSAPs are operated by local governments with revenues received from a monthly telephone excise tax paid by telecommunication service providers for each device with access to 9-1-1, that is presumably passed-along to and recaptured from consumers. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

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receives and distributes these funds. Since 1995, there have been a number of attempts to "right-size" the PSAP system in Oregon. Thirty years ago there were almost 300 PSAPs; currently there are roughly 50 operating in the state.

House Bill 2425 A directs OEM to develop and administer a grant program in support of projects to consolidate and modernize PSAPs. The measure also provides for the approval of up to two projects a year and creates the Public Safety Answer Point Consolidation Fund.