

**B-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 2605**

Ordered by the Senate June 2  
Including House Amendments dated April 5 and Senate Amendments  
dated June 2

Sponsored by Representatives GOMBERG, SMITH DB, WEBER; Representatives EVANS, WRIGHT (Pre-session filed.)

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Imposes tsunami design standards for certain buildings and other structures. [*Allows local government to impose vertical evacuation standards for new or existing buildings and other structures as part of local tsunami evacuation plan.*]

Requires that sites for new structures be evaluated for vulnerability to seismic geologic hazards if structures are major structures or are designated as having specified tsunami risk for design.

Requires developer of building designated as having specified tsunami risk for design to request determination, scientific evidence and recommendations from State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. Requires department to report annually regarding requests, determinations and suggestions.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to tsunami risk; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 455.447 and 672.107.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 (a) **“ASCE” means the American Society of Civil Engineers.**

6 (b) **“ASCE 7” means the ASCE Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for**  
7 **Buildings and Other Structures that appear in the Oregon Structural Specialty Code.**

8 (2) **Notwithstanding any contrary standard under the structural specialty code, the fol-**  
9 **lowing must be designed to meet or exceed the tsunami loads and effects design standards**  
10 **applicable under the provisions related to tsunamis in ASCE 7:**

11 (a) **Risk Category III buildings and structures, as defined in “Risk Category of Buildings**  
12 **and Other Structures,” Table 1604.5 of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code. Buildings and**  
13 **other structures described in this paragraph must be designated as Tsunami Risk Category**  
14 **III for design.**

15 (b) **Risk Category IV buildings and structures, as defined in “Risk Category of Buildings**  
16 **and Other Structures,” Table 1604.5 of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code. Buildings and**  
17 **other structures described in this paragraph must be designated as Tsunami Risk Category**  
18 **IV for design.**

19 **SECTION 2. ORS 455.447 is amended to read:**

20 455.447. (1) As used in this section, unless the context requires otherwise:

21 [(a) *“Essential facility” means:*]

22 [(A) *Hospitals and other medical facilities having surgery and emergency treatment areas;*]

23 [(B) *Fire and police stations;*]

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       [(C) Tanks or other structures containing, housing or supporting water or fire-suppression materi-  
2 als or equipment required for the protection of essential or hazardous facilities or special occupancy  
3 structures;]

4       [(D) Emergency vehicle shelters and garages;]

5       [(E) Structures and equipment in emergency-preparedness centers;]

6       [(F) Standby power generating equipment for essential facilities; and]

7       [(G) Structures and equipment in government communication centers and other facilities required  
8 for emergency response.]

9       [(b) "Hazardous facility" means structures housing, supporting or containing sufficient quantities  
10 of toxic or explosive substances to be of danger to the safety of the public if released.]

11       [(c) (a) "Major structure" means a building over six stories in height with an aggregate floor  
12 area of 60,000 square feet or more, every building over 10 stories in height and parking structures  
13 as determined by Department of Consumer and Business Services rule.

14       [(d) (b) "Seismic hazard" means a geologic condition that is a potential danger to life and  
15 property that includes but is not limited to earthquake, landslide, liquefaction, tsunami inundation,  
16 fault displacement, and subsidence.

17       [(e) "Special occupancy structure" means:]

18       [(A) Covered structures whose primary occupancy is public assembly with a capacity greater than  
19 300 persons;]

20       [(B) Buildings with a capacity greater than 250 individuals for every public, private or parochial  
21 school through secondary level or child care centers;]

22       [(C) Buildings for colleges or adult education schools with a capacity greater than 500 persons;]

23       [(D) Medical facilities with 50 or more resident, incapacitated patients not included in subpara-  
24 graphs (A) to (C) of this paragraph;]

25       [(E) Jails and detention facilities; and]

26       [(F) All structures and occupancies with a capacity greater than 5,000 persons.]

27       (2) The Department of Consumer and Business Services shall consult with the Seismic Safety  
28 Policy Advisory Commission and the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries prior to  
29 adopting rules. Thereafter, the Department of Consumer and Business Services may adopt rules as  
30 set forth in ORS 183.325 to 183.410 to amend the state building code to:

31       (a) Require new building sites [for essential facilities, hazardous facilities, major structures and  
32 special occupancy structures] to be evaluated on a site specific basis for vulnerability to seismic  
33 geologic hazards **if the sites are for structures that are:**

34       **(A) Major structures; or**

35       **(B) Designated under section 1 of this 2021 Act as Tsunami Risk Category III or IV for**  
36 **design.**

37       (b) Require a program for the installation of strong motions accelerographs in or near selected  
38 major buildings.

39       (c) Provide for the review of geologic and engineering reports for seismic design of new  
40 [buildings of large size, high occupancy or critical use] **major structures or buildings that have**  
41 **been designated under section 1 of this 2021 Act as Tsunami Risk Category III and IV for**  
42 **design.**

43       (d) Provide for filing of noninterpretive seismic data from site evaluation in a manner accessible  
44 to the public.

45       (3) For the purpose of defraying the cost of applying the regulations in subsection (2) of this

1 section, there is hereby imposed a surcharge in the amount of one percent of the total fees collected  
2 under the structural and mechanical specialty codes for [*essential facilities, hazardous facilities,*]  
3 major structures and [*special occupancy structures*] **buildings that have been designated under**  
4 **section 1 of this 2021 Act as Tsunami Risk Category III or IV for design**, which fees are re-  
5 tained by the jurisdiction enforcing the particular specialty code as provided in ORS 455.150 or en-  
6 forcing a building inspection program under ORS 455.148.

7 *[(4) Developers of new essential facilities, hazardous facilities, major structures and special occu-  
8 pancy structures that are located in an identified tsunami inundation zone, as described in ORS  
9 455.446 (2), shall consult with the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries for assistance  
10 in determining the impact of possible tsunamis on the proposed development and for assistance in pre-  
11 paring methods to mitigate risk at the site of a potential tsunami. Consultation must take place prior  
12 to submittal of design plans to the building official for final approval.]*

13 **(4) Before submitting design plans for a proposed building designated under section 1 of**  
14 **this 2021 Act as Tsunami Risk Category III or IV for design, the developer shall request**  
15 **consultation from the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries with respect to**  
16 **the impacts from potential tsunami activity on the proposed building and the department**  
17 **shall provide the developer with the best available scientific evidence of potential impacts.**  
18 **The department shall make a determination as to the likely impacts and recommend any**  
19 **design or other changes to mitigate the impacts that the department deems advisable or**  
20 **necessary. The department shall notify the developer and the official responsible for ap-**  
21 **proving the development not later than 45 days after receiving the developer’s request. An**  
22 **official that approves the development shall include the department’s determination and**  
23 **recommendations with permit documents for the building.**

24 **SECTION 3. The State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries shall report re-**  
25 **garding requests, determinations and recommendations made under ORS 455.447 (4) to an**  
26 **interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to general government in the manner**  
27 **provided by ORS 192.245, no later than September 15 of each year.**

28 **SECTION 4. ORS 672.107 is amended to read:**

29 672.107. (1) For purposes of this section:

30 (a) **“Essential facility” means Risk Category IV buildings and structures, as defined in**  
31 **“Risk Category of Buildings and Other Structures,” Table 1604.5 of the Oregon Structural**  
32 **Specialty Code.**

33 (b) **“Hazardous facility” means structures housing, supporting or containing sufficient**  
34 **quantities of toxic or explosive substances to be of danger to the safety of the public if re-**  
35 **leased.**

36 [(a)] (c)(A) **“Significant structure” means:**

37 [(A)] (i) **Hazardous facilities and special occupancy structures[, as defined in ORS 455.447];**

38 [(B)] (ii) **Essential facilities[, as defined in ORS 455.447,] that have a ground area of more than**  
39 **4,000 square feet or are more than 20 feet in height;**

40 [(C)] (iii) **Structures that the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services**  
41 **determines to have irregular features; and**

42 [(D)] (iv) **Buildings that are customarily occupied by human beings and are more than four sto-**  
43 **ries or 45 feet above average ground level.**

44 [(b)] (B) **“Significant structure” does not mean:**

45 [(A)] (i) **One-family and two-family dwellings and accompanying accessory structures;**

1        *[(B)]* (ii) Agricultural buildings or equine facilities, both as defined in ORS 455.315; or  
2        *[(C)]* (iii) Buildings located on lands exempt from Department of Consumer and Business Ser-  
3 vices enforcement of building code regulations.

4        (d) **“Special occupancy structure” means Risk Category III buildings and structures, as**  
5 **defined in “Risk Category of Buildings and Other Structures,” Table 1604.5 of the Oregon**  
6 **Structural Specialty Code.**

7        (2) Consistent with ORS 672.255, the State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Sur-  
8 veying shall adopt rules establishing standards of competence in structural engineering analysis and  
9 design relating to seismic influence.

10        (3) An engineer may not provide engineering services for significant structures unless the engi-  
11 neer possesses a valid professional structural engineer certificate of registration issued by the  
12 board.

13        **SECTION 5. Section 1 of this 2021 Act, and the amendments to ORS 455.447 by section 2**  
14 **of this 2021 Act, apply to buildings for which a building permit is initially issued on or after**  
15 **January 1, 2022.**

16