

By passing HB 2851 with funding for the Oregon Safety Assessment Program (ORSAP), the Legislature will realize its goal in passing HB 2206 to train, certify and dispatch architects and engineers who volunteer their time to assess building damage following a disaster. It is a partnership that has proven its worth in other states.

By identifying the safety of affected buildings, the program protects the public, It is also an essential step in the recovery phase, identifying whether buildings can be used or will need further study regarding repairs or replacement. FEMA has been moving towards requiring building assessment programs as a requirement for FEMA funding, so the program is essential to ensure Oregon gets the support it will need following a disaster.