

HB 3462 -4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Prepared By: Claire Adamsick, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/21, 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Department of Emergency Management (OEM) to prioritize immediate provision of safe housing to displaced individuals in an emergency or major disaster that is in compliance with state and federal fair housing laws. Allows Governor to enter into arrangements for temporary housing units upon notification of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means or Emergency Board if an emergency occurs when the Legislative Assembly is not in session. Directs OEM to equally provide any available federal resources to affected community members ineligible to receive federal resources due to immigration status. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Struggles of families who lost housing in 2020 Almeda wildfire
- Barriers to undocumented community members in accessing FEMA disaster support

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-4 Replaces the measure.

Directs specified agencies that provide temporary housing to displaced individuals in an emergency to ensure the housing is safe and in compliance with state and federal laws relating to discrimination. Clarifies "specified agency" includes Department of Emergency Management, Oregon Housing and Community Services, or the Department of Human Services. Clarifies, for purposes of Act, that temporary housing is considered to be a dwelling as defined by Oregon Law related to discrimination in selling, renting or leasing real property (ORS 659A.421) and the Federal Fair Housing Act. Allows specified agency administering federal emergency response resources to provide similar or equivalent resources to community members ineligible for these resources for any reason, including immigration status, subject to specified agency funding availability. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 401.185 describes the temporary provision of housing when the Governor or U.S. President has declared a state of emergency or major disaster in Oregon. State law directs the Governor to coordinate with federal agencies to arrange temporary housing for disaster victims, and to make the units available to local governments.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides direct housing resources to disaster survivors whose primary home is destroyed or is unlivable as a result of major damage caused by the disaster, or who has no other practical temporary housing options available within a reasonable commuting distance due to a lack of available rental resources. FEMA indicates that, to qualify for disaster assistance, the applicant must be either a U.S., citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified non-citizen based on specifications.

House Bill 3462 directs the Oregon Department of Emergency Management to equally provide any available federal resources, including temporary housing to affected community members ineligible to receive federal resources due to immigration status.