

HB 2873 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Action Date: 03/16/23

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

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Conrad, Dexter, Evans, Grayber, Hieb, Lewis, Tran

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

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Meeting Dates: 3/7, 3/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes issuance of \$10 million in general obligation bonds under Article XI-Q of the Oregon Constitution for emergency preparedness equipment grant program. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of SPIRE program
- Types of equipment that are eligible for program funds
- Whether program applies to declared housing emergency
- Responsibility for tracking equipment funded by grants
- Equipment that reaches end of its useful life

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Increases amount of lottery bond proceeds from \$5 million to \$10 million.

BACKGROUND:

The State Preparedness and Incident Response Equipment (SPIRE) program provides grant funds for the purchase and distribution of equipment to local jurisdictions, including vehicles and other property, to be maintained and used by those jurisdictions until needed for use during an emergency. The program was approved during the 2017 legislative session, with a second round approved with the passage of House Bill 2426 (2021). The 2021 legislation also expanded the types of equipment eligible for grants to include those used in urban search and rescue operations.

House Bill 2873 A authorizes the issuance of \$10 million in lottery bonds to fund additional SPIRE program grants.