

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: SB 962 - A**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Directs Oregon Department of Emergency Management to develop and implement grant program to distribute moneys to certain counties to fund emergency preparedness coordinators. Directs Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council to convene a Committee on County Emergency Management.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Emergency Management, Counties, Legislative Revenue Office

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM) to develop and implement a grant program that distributes monies to eligible counties to fund emergency preparedness coordinators at the county level. The measure specifies an eligible county as being one of Clatsop, Coos, Curry, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln, or Tillamook counties; and whose emergency management agency is funded by the Emergency Management Performance Grant administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In addition, the measure provides a one-time, unspecified General Fund appropriation to ODEM in the 2023-25 biennium to develop and implement the grant program. The measure is effective on January 1, 2024.

In addition, the measure directs the Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council to convene a Committee on County Emergency Management. The measure directs the Committee to study and make recommendations on the capacity of counties in Oregon to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies. The measure requires the recommendations to include established funding for county emergency management staff, including a director and deputy director in each county and, on or before December 31, 2024, the committee shall provide a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly. The measure directs the Legislative Revenue Officer to assist the Committee in revenue projections and any other tasks the committee deems necessary for the performance of its duties. The Committee is repealed on January 2, 2026.

The fiscal impact for ODEM is indeterminate. The amount of funding available to support the grant program is unknown. The Department does not have current resources to absorb the costs of developing and administering a new program. The Department anticipates needing a limited duration Program Analyst 3 and a limited duration Administrative Specialist 1 to implement the measure. With an effective date of January 1, 2024, the estimated fiscal impact of these two positions (1.50 FTE) total \$333,354 General Fund in the 2023-25 biennium. However, depending on the amount of funds provided, the demand and the structure of grant agreements with eligible counties, the Department's expenses for implementing the measure could be higher.

The Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (EPAC) was established within the Office of the Governor in 2021 and requires that ODEM to provide staff support to the council. ODEM reports there is no fiscal impact to the agency for EPAC convening a Committee on County Emergency Management.

There is a minimal fiscal impact for the Legislative Revenue Office and no fiscal impact for counties.

This measure has a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its budgetary impact on the State's General Fund.