

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2484

Ordered by the House March 28
Including House Amendments dated March 28

Sponsored by Representatives NATHANSON, GRAYBER; Representatives CATE, EVANS, RUIZ, Senators KNOPP, PATTERSON (Presession 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.

Directs Department of State Fire Marshal to coordinate urban search and rescue function of this state.

Requires department to study needs of state related to urban search and rescue. Directs department to submit findings to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to emergency management no later than September 15, 2024.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to urban search and rescue.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 476.**

5 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section, "urban search and rescue" means the provision**
6 **of technical rescue services involving location, extrication and initial medical stabilization**
7 **of victims trapped in an urban area, including from structures or trenches collapsed due to**
8 **natural disaster, war, terrorism or accidents.**

9 **(2) The Department of the State Fire Marshal shall coordinate the urban search and**
10 **rescue function of this state, including:**

11 **(a) Coordinating the activities of local, state and federal agencies involved in urban**
12 **search and rescue;**

13 **(b) Establishing liaison with public and private organizations and agencies involved in**
14 **urban search and rescue, including fire service providers and county sheriffs;**

15 **(c) Assisting in developing training and education programs; and**

16 **(d) Gathering and disseminating resource information of personnel, equipment and ma-**
17 **terials available for urban search and rescue.**

18 **(3) The department, on behalf of the State of Oregon, may solicit and accept gifts, grants,**
19 **donations and other moneys from public and private sources for urban search and rescue**
20 **purposes. Moneys received from such sources must be deposited in the State Fire Marshal**
21 **Fund established under ORS 476.055 and used for purposes related to urban search and res-**
22 **cue, subject to any restrictions or conditions established by the sources of such moneys.**

23 **SECTION 3. Section 4 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 404.100 to**
24 **404.270.**

25 **SECTION 4. As used in ORS 404.100 to 404.270, "search and rescue" does not include ur-**
26 **ban search and rescue, as defined in section 2 of this 2023 Act.**

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 **SECTION 5.** (1) The Department of the State Fire Marshal shall study the needs of this
2 state related to urban search and rescue, as defined in section 2 of this 2023 Act.

3 (2) The study must include:

4 (a) An assessment of the organization structure needed for urban search and rescue; and

5 (b) Recommendations for funding urban search and rescue in this state.

6 (3) The department shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
7 may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative
8 Assembly related to emergency management no later than September 15, 2024. The depart-
9 ment shall prepare to testify as to its findings before the appropriate committees of the
10 Legislative Assembly during the 2024 regular session.

11 **SECTION 6.** Section 5 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.

12