

# House Bill 2859

Sponsored by Representative EVANS (Pre-session 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 **as introduced**.

Directs Oregon Department of Emergency Management to develop and implement program to reimburse certain nongovernmental entities for specified costs related to volunteers.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to emergency volunteers; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall develop and**  
5 **implement a program to reimburse eligible entities, as described in subsection (2) of this**  
6 **section, for costs described in subsection (3) of this section, in whole or in part. The de-**  
7 **partment shall pay for such reimbursements from the Disaster Volunteer Assistance Fund**  
8 **created under section 2 of this 2023 Act.**

9 **(2) Nongovernmental entities that are responsible for disaster response and recovery**  
10 **within a locality are eligible for reimbursement under this section. Eligible entities under**  
11 **this subsection include, without limitation, community organizations active in disaster and**  
12 **long-term recovery groups.**

13 **(3) The department may reimburse the following costs under this section, if the costs are**  
14 **incurred during a disaster or in response to a disaster:**

15 **(a) Payments to volunteers for mileage, other transportation costs, per diem, lodging,**  
16 **childcare and supplies; and**

17 **(b) Acquisition of volunteer liability coverage.**

18 **(4) The department shall adopt rules necessary for the administration of this section.**

19 **SECTION 2. The Disaster Volunteer Assistance Fund is established in the State Treas-**  
20 **ury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The Disaster Volunteer Assistance Fund**  
21 **consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the fund by the Leg-**  
22 **islative Assembly or otherwise. Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the**  
23 **Oregon Department of Emergency Management to make reimbursement payments under**  
24 **section 1 of this 2023 Act.**

25 **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
26 **ated to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, for the biennium beginning July**  
27 **1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$\_\_ for deposit in the Disaster Volunteer**  
28 **Assistance Fund created under section 2 of this 2023 Act.**

29 **SECTION 4. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
30 **ated to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, for the biennium beginning July**  
31 **1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$\_\_ to carry out the provisions of section**

**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 **1 of this 2023 Act, including program development, outreach, administration and reporting.**

2 **SECTION 5. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
3 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect**  
4 **on its passage.**

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