

House Bill 3074

Sponsored by Representatives CATE, LEVY B; Representative HIEB

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 court to consider, when determining aggravation in imposition of criminal sentence, evidence that defendant committed crime during emergency, during evacuation while emergency in effect, or within one year after emergency ceases, provided that emergency is related to natural disaster and defendant took advantage of circumstances related to emergency. Directs Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to include commission of crime under such circumstances as aggravating factor in rules of commission concerning sentencing departure factors.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to emergencies; amending ORS 137.090; and prescribing an effective date.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 137.090 is amended to read:

5 137.090. (1) In determining aggravation or mitigation, the court shall consider:

6 (a) Any evidence received during the proceeding;

7 (b) The presentence report, where one is available; and

8 (c) Any other evidence relevant to aggravation or mitigation that the court finds trustworthy
9 and reliable.

10 (2) In determining mitigation, the court may consider:

11 (a) Evidence regarding the defendant's status as a servicemember as defined in ORS 135.881.

12 (b) Whether the defendant committed the crime while under duress, compulsion, direction or
13 pressure from another person who has:

14 (A) Committed acts of domestic violence, as defined in ORS 135.230, against the defendant;

15 (B) Committed acts of abuse as a family or household member of the defendant, as those terms
16 are defined in ORS 107.705, against the defendant; or

17 (C) Used force, intimidation, fraud or coercion to cause the defendant to engage, or attempt to
18 engage, in a commercial sex act.

19 **(3)(a) In determining aggravation, the court shall consider evidence that the crime:**

20 **(A) Was committed during an emergency, and the defendant took advantage of circum-**
21 **stances related to the emergency;**

22 **(B) Was committed during a mandatory evacuation while an emergency was in effect,**
23 **and the defendant took advantage of circumstances related to the evacuation; or**

24 **(C) Was committed within one year after an emergency ceased to be in effect, and the**
25 **defendant took advantage of circumstances related to the recovery from the emergency.**

26 **(b) The Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, in the rules of the commission concerning**
27 **sentencing departure factors, shall include as an aggravating factor circumstances described**
28 **in paragraph (a) of this subsection.**

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 (c) As used in this subsection:

2 (A) "Emergency" means:

3 (i) A state of emergency declared by the Governor under ORS 401.165 due to a natural
4 disaster, and any extension of the state of emergency;

5 (ii) A state of emergency declared by a city or county by ordinance or resolution as de-
6 scribed in ORS 401.309 due to a natural disaster; or

7 (iii) A catastrophic disaster declared by the Governor, pursuant to Article X-A, section
8 1, of the Oregon Constitution, due to a natural disaster.

9 (B) "Natural disaster" includes but is not limited to a fire, earthquake, flood, volcanic
10 eruption or tsunami.

11 [(3)] (4) When a witness is so sick or infirm as to be unable to attend, the deposition of the
12 witness may be taken out of court at such time and place, and upon such notice to the adverse
13 party, and before such person authorized to take depositions, as the court directs.

14 **SECTION 2. This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023**
15 **regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

16