

HB 4075 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure establishes the Task Force on Funding Public Safety to develop a plan by September 15, 2026, for the Legislative Assembly to establish a statewide public safety funding authority in Oregon in accordance with House Joint Resolution 201 (2024).

Detailed Summary

Establishes the Task Force on Funding Public Safety to develop an implementation plan for the Legislative Assembly to establish a statewide public safety funding authority in Oregon in accordance with House Joint Resolution 201 (2024). Requires Governor to appoint nine voting members from representatives of the public safety community, special districts, State Fire Marshal, State Forestry Department, Department of Emergency Management, and Oregon Fire Chiefs Association (OFCA), and four nonvoting members from the Department of Revenue, State Association of County Assessors, OFCA, and rural public safety. Identifies the appointment of four nonvoting legislative members. Sets provisions for implementation plan, including the membership of statewide public safety funding authority and the establishment of certain processes related to the public safety property tax. Specifies that revenues from tax must be deposited in equal amounts in two funds, one for public safety inside and one for public safety outside the wildland-urban interface, and that 80 percent of revenues must fund local public safety and 20 percent must fund state level public safety. Requires plan to include baseline minimum funding level for each local public safety body. Requires report to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026. Takes effect on the effective date of HJR 201 if it is approved by people at the November 2024 general election.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment changes the name to the Task Force on Funding Public Safety, Rural Fire Protection Districts Organized Under ORS Chapter 478, and Municipal Fire Response Agencies. It adds two members appointed by the Governor to represent the Oregon Fire District Directors Association and Oregon State Firefighters Council.

BACKGROUND:

House Joint Resolution 201 (2024) proposes an amendment to Article IX, Finance, of the Oregon Constitution to require the Legislative Assembly to impose by law a state property tax to fund public safety. The measure will require the Legislative Assembly to define taxable property, establish certain processes, and create an administrative entity. It limits the annual tax rate to 25 cents per \$1,000 of the assessed value of the property and allows the Legislative Assembly to set rates and exemptions for certain classifications of property and taxpayers. If adopted, HJR 201 would be referred to the voters in November 2024.

According to the Legislative Fiscal Office [2023-2025 Budget Highlights](#), the public safety program area is comprised of state executive branch agencies whose mission is to enforce criminal and civil law and provide for homeland security and emergency management.