

HB 3034 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Housing and Development

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Meeting Dates: 3/10, 4/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Housing and Community Services Department (instead of the Oregon Housing Stability Council) to develop policy for the use of funds in the Emergency Housing Account.

Detailed Summary:

- Directs that the Housing and Community Services Department (Department) develop policy for use of funds in the Emergency Housing Account, rather than the Oregon Housing Stability Council (Council).
- Adds the Council to list of entities from which Department is directed to receive advice when developing the policy.
- Prohibits Department from awarding a grant unless an organization demonstrates specified factors.
- Specifies source of funds that must be dedicated to assistance for veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Fiscal: No fiscal Impact

Revenue: No revenue Impact

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 40; Nays, 11

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Housing and Community Services (OHCS) is the state's housing finance agency, responsible for addressing affordable housing and homelessness. It provides funding and policy leadership to support housing stability, homeownership, and community services for low- and moderate-income Oregonians. OHCS administers programs such as rental assistance, homelessness prevention, and housing development grants. The agency collaborates with local governments, nonprofits, and private developers to improve housing accessibility across the state.

The [Housing Stability Council](#) is an advisory body to OHCS. Its mission is to provide leadership and to review and set policy for the development and financing of affordable housing throughout the state. Its authority is established in ORS 456.395–456.620 and ORS 458.310–458.655. The Council sets the strategic direction for the Department and establishes a policy framework that informs OHCS decisions. In collaboration with OHCS and community partners, the Council helps shape the OHCS strategic plan, prioritizing efforts to increase affordable housing statewide and enhance funding for community services.

Beyond strategy development, the Council also evaluates and rules on the regulations and standards related to planning, development, management, and revitalization of affordable housing. In its work, the Council endeavors to align with other state and federally funded agencies that support low-income Oregonians and foster statewide economic growth. Operating within the overarching strategies and policies of OHCS, the Council directs the distribution of funds by examining and approving requests for loans, grants, and other resources that align with agency goals. Every year, the Council reviews the OHCS annual operating plan, receives regular updates from the

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

Director, and identifies key issues to address.

PRELIMINARY