

HB 2581 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Grayber

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Action Date: 02/06/25

Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Boice, Evans, Grayber, Lewis, Skarlatos, Tran, Watanabe

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 1/30, 2/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure expands the duties of the State Resilience Officer.

Detailed Summary

Updates the duties of the State Resilience Officer (SRO) to include planning for all hazards, not just seismic events. Directs the SRO to implement the Oregon Resilience Plan, the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and other resilience plans adopted by the state, as well as to lead executive branch agencies in continuity of operations and government planning.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Planning approaches to all hazards, not just the Cascadia Subduction event
- Emphasis that planning for seismic events is still important
- Importance of continuity of government planning and continuity of government operations
- Questions about the number of personnel in the office of the SRO
- Support for centralized hazard coordination

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2270 (2015) created the Office of State Resilience Officer in the Governor’s Office to direct, implement and coordinate seismic safety and resilience goal setting, as well as state agency planning to improve seismic safety and resilience. According to Department of Emergency Management, Oregon responded to eight major disaster declarations in the past five years, including landslides, mudslides, severe storms, flooding, the COVID-19 pandemic, and wildfires. In 2024, Oregon responded to six emergencies, including rainstorm events, winter storms, the fentanyl crisis, drought, extreme heat, and a tsunami warning.