

SB 234 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

Action Date: 04/01/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 3-0-2-0

Yeas: 3 - Manning Jr, Meek, Smith DB

Exc: 2 - Thatcher, Woods

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Kevin Rancik, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure changes the date from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2026, by which the Oregon Department of Emergency Management must maintain a system for the notification and interagency coordination of state resources in response to emergencies involving multiple jurisdictions.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Time needed to transition the Oregon Emergency Response System to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM)
- Technical fix as part of OEM becoming a standalone agency

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment replaces the measure. It changes the date from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2026, by which the Oregon Department of Emergency Management must maintain a system for the notification and interagency coordination of state resources in response to emergencies involving multiple jurisdictions.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Emergency Management's (OEM) functions are defined in [Chapter 401](#) of the Oregon Revised Statutes. OEM coordinates and maintains a statewide emergency services system for emergency and disaster communications, with OEM supporting coordination and communication for incidents affecting multiple jurisdictions. The Department plans and prepares for, and engages in mitigation and recovery efforts from, a full spectrum of hazard events. OEM was originally part of the Oregon Military Department, but became a stand-alone department in 2022 after the passage of [House Bill 2927 \(2021\)](#).

Part of the measure that made OEM a department amended ORS 401.904, directing OEM to maintain a system for the notification and interagency coordination of state resources in response to multijurisdictional emergencies and to adopt rules relating to the system's planning, administration, and operation. This system, currently known as the Oregon Emergency Response System (OERS), is also to be the primary point of contact by which public agencies provide the state notification of emergencies or disaster, and request state and federal resources. The effective date of these provisions is July 1, 2025.

Senate Bill 234 A extends the timeline to July 1, 2026, that OEM must maintain the emergency notification and coordination system.