

House Bill 2879

Sponsored by Representative EVANS (Pre-session filed.)

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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Creates a task force to study how a major seismic event will affect children and to prepare to meet the needs of children after such an event. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.4).

Establishes the Task Force on Seismic Event Preparation. Directs the task force to conduct a study regarding the impacts of a major seismic event on children and to identify methods for preparing schools and communities to meet the needs of children following a major seismic event.

Directs the task force to submit a report to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to education no later than September 15, 2026.

Sunsetts task force on January 2, 2027.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to seismic event preparation; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Seismic Event Preparation is established.**

5 **(2) The task force consists of nine members appointed as follows:**

6 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the**
7 **Senate.**

8 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among**
9 **members of the House of Representatives.**

10 **(c) The Governor shall appoint seven members as follows:**

11 **(A) One member who represents the Oregon Department of Emergency Management;**

12 **(B) One member who manages emergencies for a school district;**

13 **(C) One member who represents the Department of Education;**

14 **(D) One member who represents the Department of Early Learning and Care;**

15 **(E) One member who represents the Department of Human Services for child welfare**
16 **services;**

17 **(F) One member who is a mental health provider; and**

18 **(G) One member who is the public safety policy advisor to the Governor.**

19 **(3) The task force shall conduct a study regarding the impacts of a major seismic event**
20 **on children. As part of the study, the task force shall identify methods for preparing schools**
21 **and communities to meet the needs of children following a major seismic event.**

22 **(4) When conducting the study described in subsection (3) of this section, the task force**
23 **shall consult with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.**

24 **(5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the**
25 **transaction of business.**

26 **(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting**
27 **members of the task force.**

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 (7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

2 (8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
3 ment to become immediately effective.

4 (9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
5 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

6 (10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

7 (11) The task force shall submit a report, and may include recommendations for legis-
8 lation, to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to education no later
9 than September 15, 2026.

10 (12) The Department of Education shall provide staff support to the task force.

11 (13) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting
12 members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

13 (14) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
14 entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task
15 force.

16 (15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
17 the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted
18 by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
19 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

20 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.

21 SECTION 3. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
22 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect
23 on its passage.
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