House Bill 3754

Sponsored by Representative TRAN

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: The Act tells ODEM to make a registry of people who can volunteer in emergencies and run a training program for them. The Act says that the Joint Ways and Means Committee should dedicate moneys to volunteers. (Flesch Readability Score: 62.3).

Directs the Oregon Department of Emergency Management to create and maintain a registry of persons who are able and willing to provide emergency volunteer services.

Directs the department to develop and administer a statewide training program for emergency volunteers.

Declares a policy of the Legislative Assembly that the Joint Committee on Ways and Means should dedicate a percentage of unexpended moneys in each biennium to emergency volunteer purposes.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to emergency volunteers.

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

4 <u>SECTION 1.</u> (1) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall create and

5 maintain a registry of persons who are able and willing to provide volunteer services related

6 to emergency response. The registry may include:

7 (a) Persons included in the emergency health care provider registry established under
8 ORS 401.654;

9 (b) Persons registered as volunteers with the Department of Human Services;

10 (c) Persons registered as volunteers with a local government, as defined in ORS 174.116,

11 including members of community emergency response teams, neighborhood emergency

12 teams and volunteer firefighting associations;

- 13 (d) Current or former first responders;
- 14 (e) Persons experienced in construction or other skilled trades; and

15 (f) Other persons that the Oregon Department of Emergency Management determines

16 are able to assist in emergency response.

(2) As a condition of inclusion on the registry, the Oregon Department of Emergency
Management may require:

- 19 (a) Evidence of relevant qualifications;
- 20 (b) Training related to emergency response, including incident management or command;

21 and

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- 22 (c) Criminal background checks.
- 23 (3) The registry must include, for each person:
- 24 (a) The person's name and contact information;
- 25 (b) The physical location where the person is based; and
- 26 (c) Specialized training or skills related to emergency response that the person has.

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1 (4) The registry must be accessible to emergency management agencies and emergency 2 program managers described in ORS 401.305. The Oregon Department of Emergency Man-3 agement may make the registry accessible to any other persons or entities if the department 4 determines that providing such access will enhance public safety.

5 (5) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall establish procedures for 6 communicating with appropriate entities, including the Department of Human Services, the 7 Oregon Health Authority and local governments, for the purposes of gathering information 8 for the registry and regularly updating the information.

9 <u>SECTION 2.</u> (1) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall develop and 10 administer a statewide training program for volunteers included in the registry established 11 under section 1 of this 2025 Act. The department shall consult with the Department of Public 12 Safety Standards and Training in developing the training program.

(2) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall base the training program
on the curriculum established by the Emergency Management Institute of the Federal
Emergency Management Agency.

(3) The department shall ensure that training is made available to persons in all regions
of this state. Such training may be provided through remote means.

(4) The department shall collaborate with entities described in section 1 (5) of this 2025
Act to provide information about the training program to volunteers statewide.

<u>SECTION 3.</u> It is the policy of the Legislative Assembly that the Joint Committee on Ways and Means shall, during each odd-numbered year regular session of the Legislative Assembly, dedicate a percentage of moneys that are appropriated from the State Treasury but are projected to be unexpended at the end of the biennium to emergency volunteer purposes.

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