

A-Engrossed House Bill 4121

Ordered by the House February 16
Including House Amendments dated February 16

Sponsored by Representatives EVANS, GOMBERG, JAVADI; Representatives ANDERSEN, CHAICHI, GAMBA, NELSON, PHAM H, RIEKE SMITH (Presession 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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act creates new systems and structures and changes law to improve emergency response in the state. (Flesch Readability Score: 65.1).

Creates statewide emergency preparedness offices and authorities to coordinate emergency management. Authorizes bonding for public safety projects. Requires state agencies to designate liaisons for emergency management.

Imposes duties on the Oregon Department of Emergency Management related to management of emergency preparedness assets.

Modifies the definitions of and grant requirements for Resilience Hubs and Resilience Networks.

Authorizes certain training facilities to host overnight training activities. *[Authorizes]* **Requires** the Oregon Department of Emergency Management to obtain fingerprints of employees *[or]* **and** contractors.

Authorizes counties to waive certain civil penalties related to food service facilities during emergencies.

Requires the Department of the State Fire Marshal to study health coverage for firefighters.

Requires legislative committees to identify a revenue source for certain public safety programs.

Establishes grant programs for emergencies.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to emergency management; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 401.114, 401.913 and 409.760.

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

SPARTICIS

SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Statewide Preparedness Authority for Response Training and Intergovernmental Continuity of Imperative Services is established as an office within the Oregon Department of Administrative Services. The office is to be known as and may be cited as SPARTICIS.

(2) The office is under the supervision and control of the State Resilience Officer, who is responsible for the performance of the duties, functions and powers of the office.

(3) For purposes of administration, the State Resilience Officer may organize and reorganize the office and appoint administrative personnel as the State Resilience Officer considers necessary to properly conduct the work of the office.

(4) The State Resilience Officer may divide the functions of the office into administrative divisions. The State Resilience Officer may appoint an individual to administer each division. The administrator of each division serves at the pleasure of the State Resilience Officer and

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 is not subject to the provisions of ORS chapter 240. Each individual appointed under this
2 subsection must be well qualified by technical training and experience in the functions to be
3 performed by the individual.

4 (5) The office shall:

5 (a) Provide administrative and operational support for the development of strategic im-
6 provements in facilities and programming;

7 (b) Provide oversight for prioritization of funding associated with emergency-related
8 equipment and functions implemented throughout this state;

9 (c) Provide standardization across state agencies for continuity of governance planning,
10 exercises and preparedness;

11 (d) Serve as a platform for development, implementation and assessment of policies
12 adopted by the State Resilience Officer and provide administrative and operational support
13 as directed by the State Resilience Officer;

14 (e) Carry out the duties imposed by sections 2 to 11 of this 2026 Act; and

15 (f) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to the office.

16 (6) The office shall periodically report to the Legislative Assembly on the office's activ-
17 ities, priorities and project outcomes.

18 (7) The office may adopt rules as necessary to carry out its duties.

19 **SECTION 2.** (1) SPARTICIS shall oversee state strategy relating to regional facilities and
20 capacity related to emergency preparedness.

21 (2) The office shall identify, prioritize and assist in obtaining funding for projects to
22 construct or improve regional facilities.

23 (3) The office shall ensure that the state has a combination of fixed, mobile and trans-
24 portable supplies that is appropriate for emergency management purposes.

25 (4) The office shall make expenditures, including grants to local governments, as defined
26 in ORS 174.116, and private entities, that are consistent with the goal of enhancing regional
27 facilities related to emergency management. The office may condition grants on matching
28 contributions or other contributions from recipients.

29 (5) The office shall monitor the progress of all projects overseen by the office under this
30 section and publish quarterly reports on such progress.

31 (6) The office shall provide administrative support as necessary to other interagency or
32 intergovernmental bodies related to emergency management.

33 **SECTION 3.** The Regional Facilities Account is established in the State Treasury, sepa-
34 rate and distinct from the General Fund. The account consists of moneys appropriated, al-
35 located, deposited or transferred to the account by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise.
36 Moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Admin-
37 istrative Services for SPARTICIS to carry out the provisions of section 2 of this 2026 Act.

38 **SECTION 4.** (1) SPARTICIS shall oversee collaboration, cooperation and coordination
39 between the state and:

40 (a) Organizations involved in the development, implementation and sustainment of the
41 emergency supplies and equipment stockpile plan described in ORS 401.111;

42 (b) Organizations involved in the development, implementation and sustainment of the
43 emergency preparedness equipment grant program described in ORS 401.551; and

44 (c) Organizations involved in other stockpile or resilience grant programs carried out by
45 state agencies.

(2) The office may take actions as necessary to ensure that supplies, equipment and other materials are appropriately staged in preparation for emergencies.

(3) The office shall monitor the progress of all projects overseen by the office under this section and publish quarterly reports on such progress.

SECTION 5. The Regional Stockpile Support Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The account consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the account by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. Moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for SPARTICIS to carry out the provisions of section 4 of this 2026 Act.

SECTION 6. (1) SPARTICIS shall enhance the emergency preparedness of this state through education and training as described in this section.

(2) The office shall collaborate, cooperate and coordinate with appropriate private and public entities with responsibility for the emergency support functions identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop regionally specific public safety education, live exercises and training with the goal of improving statewide emergency preparedness.

(3) The office shall develop, or support the development of, multidisciplinary, all-hazards emergency response training and exercises.

(4) The office shall monitor the progress of all projects overseen by the office under this section and publish quarterly reports on such progress.

SECTION 7. The Regional Training Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The account consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the account by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. Moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for SPARTICIS to carry out the provisions of section 6 of this 2026 Act.

SECTION 8. (1) SPARTICIS shall collaborate, cooperate and coordinate with state agencies and local governments to develop and standardize measures for continuity of governance during and after an emergency that affects normal government operations.

(2) The office shall develop training for state agencies and local governments related to continuity of governance. The office may perform evaluations of continuity of governance measures adopted by state agencies and local governments.

(3) The office shall monitor development of continuity of governance measures by state agencies and local governments and publish quarterly reports on such development until the office determines that sufficient measures are in place statewide.

(4) The office may provide administrative and operational support for policies, programs and initiatives of the State Resilience Officer related to continuity of governance.

SECTION 9. The Statewide Continuity of Governance Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The account consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the account by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. Moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for SPARTICIS to carry out the provisions of section 8 of this 2026 Act.

SECTION 10. (1) SPARTICIS shall collaborate, cooperate and coordinate with public and private entities with responsibility for the emergency support functions identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to identify and implement strategic investments to

enhance the emergency resilience of the state.

(2) The office may issue grants to support strategic investments described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) The office shall monitor the progress of projects funded under this section and shall evaluate, using objective measurements, the improvements to statewide emergency preparedness attributable to such projects. The office shall publish quarterly reports on such progress and improvements.

SECTION 11. The Strategic Partnership Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The account consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the account by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. Moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for SPARTICIS to carry out the provisions of section 10 of this 2026 Act.

SPARC

SECTION 12. (1) The Statewide Preparedness Authority for Response Coordination is established as an office within the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. The office is to be known as and may be cited as SPARC.

(2) The office is under the supervision and control of a facilitator, who is responsible for the performance of the duties, functions and powers of the office.

(3) The Director of the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training shall appoint the facilitator, who holds office at the pleasure of the director.

(4) The facilitator shall be paid a salary as provided by law or, if not so provided, as prescribed by the director, with the approval of the Governor.

(5) For purposes of administration, the facilitator may organize and reorganize the office as the facilitator considers necessary to properly conduct the work of the office.

(6) The facilitator may divide the functions of the office into administrative divisions. The facilitator may appoint an individual to administer each division. The administrator of each division serves at the pleasure of the facilitator and is not subject to the provisions of ORS chapter 240. Each individual appointed under this subsection must be well qualified by technical training and experience in the functions to be performed by the individual.

(7) The office shall:

(a) Develop a standardized and expandable training environment for emergency response training in consultation and collaboration with subject matter experts based on strategic, operational and tactical assessments, evaluations and requirements; and

(b) Plan, develop, construct and operate facilities for emergency response training until the facilitator determines that the facilities are fully operational, at which time control of the facilities must be transferred to the Statewide Regional Training Office established under section 18 of this 2026 Act.

SECTION 13. (1) SPARC shall develop and maintain a database to be known as the All-Hazards Statewide Responder Database. The database is to be a centralized and comprehensive repository of information regarding individuals and entities with skills or responsibilities relevant to emergency management.

(2) The office shall negotiate any data sharing agreements with public and private entities necessary to develop or maintain the database.

1 (a) \$20 million to the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training for a facility
2 in Salem.

3 (b) \$20 million to the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training for a facility
4 to operate, and to train individuals for the operation of, the emergency communications
5 system, as defined in ORS 403.105.

6 (c) \$20 million to the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council to be used for the
7 CORE3 center in Deschutes County.

8 (4) In the biennium beginning July 1, 2029, SPARC shall make additional grants for the
9 projects specified in subsection (3) of this section to fund operational costs of the projects.
10 SPARC shall determine the amount of the grants based on the need demonstrated by the
11 projects and legislative budgetary authorization.

12 (5) On or before July 1, 2031, SPARC shall make two grants of up to \$20 million each to
13 recipients, as described in subsection (7) of this section, determined through a competitive
14 process. SPARC shall adopt rules governing the competitive process and shall select recipi-
15 ents so as to maximize the emergency readiness of the state, taking into consideration the
16 severity and types of hazards that may affect various regions of this state. SPARC may not
17 make grants under this subsection for projects that received grants under subsection (3) of
18 this section.

19 (6) On or before July 1, 2034, SPARC shall make two grants of up to \$20 million each to
20 recipients determined through a competitive process as described in subsection (5) of this
21 section. SPARC may not make grants under this subsection for projects that received grants
22 under subsection (3) or (5) of this section.

23 (7) A grant under subsections (5) and (6) of this section may be made only to a recipient
24 that represents local governments and emergency management agencies in one of the fol-
25 lowing regions, which may be further defined by rules adopted by SPARC:

26 (a) North Coast;

27 (b) Central Coast;

28 (c) South Coast;

29 (d) Metro;

30 (e) Southern;

31 (f) Gorge; or

32 (g) East.

33 **SECTION 16.** (1) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, at the request of the Depart-
34 ment of Public Safety Standards and Training, the State Treasurer is authorized to issue
35 lottery bonds pursuant to ORS 286A.560 to 286A.585 in an amount that produces \$60 million
36 in net proceeds for the purposes described in subsection (4) of this section, plus an additional
37 amount estimated by the State Treasurer to be necessary to pay bond-related costs.

38 (2) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2029, at the request of the Department of Public
39 Safety Standards and Training, the State Treasurer is authorized to issue lottery bonds
40 pursuant to ORS 286A.560 to 286A.585 in an amount that produces \$40 million in net proceeds
41 for the purposes described in subsection (4) of this section, plus an additional amount esti-
42 mated by the State Treasurer to be necessary to pay bond-related costs.

43 (3) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2033, at the request of the Department of Public
44 Safety Standards and Training, the State Treasurer is authorized to issue lottery bonds
45 pursuant to ORS 286A.560 to 286A.585 in an amount that produces \$40 million in net proceeds

1 for the purposes described in subsection (4) of this section, plus an additional amount esti-
2 mated by the State Treasurer to be necessary to pay bond-related costs.

3 (4) Net proceeds of lottery bonds issued under this section must be transferred to the
4 department to be used by SPARC to issue grants under section 15 of this 2026 Act.

5 (5) The Legislative Assembly finds that the use of lottery bond proceeds will create jobs,
6 further economic development, finance public education or restore and protect parks,
7 beaches, watersheds and native fish and wildlife, and is authorized based on the following
8 findings:

9 (a) Developing public safety projects in Oregon will create employment opportunities in
10 construction and public safety professions;

11 (b) Public safety projects will help to protect natural resources in Oregon, including na-
12 tive fish and wildlife, against natural and man-made disasters; and

13 (c) Enhancing Oregon's ability to prepare for and recover from emergencies will increase
14 investment, business activity and economic development in this state.

15 **SECTION 17.** Sections 15 and 16 of this 2026 Act are repealed on January 2, 2036.

16
17 **STATEWIDE REGIONAL TRAINING OFFICE**

18
19 **SECTION 18.** (1) The Statewide Regional Training Office is established within the De-
20 partment of Public Safety Standards and Training.

21 (2) The office is under the supervision and control of the Statewide Regional Training
22 Officer, who is responsible for the performance of the duties, functions and powers of the
23 office.

24 (3) The Director of the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training shall appoint
25 the Statewide Regional Training Officer, who holds office at the pleasure of the director.

26 (4) The Statewide Regional Training Officer shall be paid a salary as provided by law or,
27 if not so provided, as prescribed by the director, with the approval of the Governor.

28 (5) For purposes of administration, the Statewide Regional Training Officer may organize
29 and reorganize the office as the Statewide Regional Training Officer considers necessary to
30 properly conduct the work of the office.

31 (6) The Statewide Regional Training Officer may divide the functions of the office into
32 administrative divisions. The Statewide Regional Training Officer may appoint an individual
33 to administer each division. The administrator of each division serves at the pleasure of the
34 Statewide Regional Training Officer and is not subject to the provisions of ORS chapter 240.
35 Each individual appointed under this subsection must be well qualified by technical training
36 and experience in the functions to be performed by the individual.

37 (7) The office shall manage and operate facilities for emergency response training after
38 control of such facilities is transferred to the office from SPARC under section 12 of this 2026
39 Act.

40 (8) The office shall develop and implement a long-term strategy for operation of the fa-
41 cilities with the goal of optimizing the emergency preparedness of the state.

42 (9) The office shall coordinate with the SPARC facilitator to develop and sustain regional
43 training programs.

44
45 **DPSST ADVISORY BOARD**

cer shall act as the primary liaison between the state agency and state authorities related to emergency management, including SPARC and the Oregon Department of Emergency Management.

(3) Each state agency not identified under subsection (1) of this section shall designate an employee of the state agency as the Continuity of Governance Responsible Officer. This officer shall act as the primary liaison between the state agency and SPARTICIS for the purposes of preparing continuity of governance plans.

SECTION 22. Each county shall submit a report to the State Resilience Officer at least once per biennium on the state of the county's emergency preparedness. The report must include:

(1) An assessment of county-level emergency management administrative support for local first responder agencies and local nonprofit or volunteer organizations associated with emergency management;

(2) An assessment of county-level strengths and weaknesses relating to emergency preparedness, response and recovery;

(3) An assessment of regional partnership development; and

(4) Recommendations for structural and systematic improvements.

SECTION 23. ORS 401.913 is amended to read:

401.913. (1) The office of State Resilience Officer is created in the office of the Governor. The office of State Resilience Officer shall direct, implement and coordinate hazard safety and resilience goal setting and state agency planning and preparation to improve hazard safety and resilience, including but not limited to planning and preparation for safety and resilience during and after earthquake, tsunami, wildfire, flooding and other natural or manmade events.

(2) The State Resilience Officer shall lead statewide efforts to implement the Oregon Resilience Plan, the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and other resilience plans adopted by the state.

(3) The State Resilience Officer shall facilitate policy standardization among state agencies, prioritize investments for improving resilience posture and provide regular reports on state agency resilience policy compliance, organizational preparedness, continuity of governance procedures and measures of emergency readiness. Such reports may be made to the Governor, appropriate committees of the Legislative Assembly or relevant public safety advisory boards and commissions.

[(3)] (4) The State Resilience Officer shall lead executive branch agencies in continuity of operations planning and continuity of government planning.

[(4)] (5) The Governor shall appoint an individual to serve as the State Resilience Officer, subject to confirmation by the Senate pursuant to Article III, section 4, of the Oregon Constitution.

[(5)] (6) The legislative branch of government and the judicial branch of government shall each select an individual to monitor the effectiveness of hazard safety and resilience planning in their branch.

OREGON DISASTER RECOVERY AUTHORITY

SECTION 24. (1) The Oregon Disaster Recovery Authority is established as an advisory group within the Office of the Governor to direct emergency recovery in Oregon. The Governor shall determine the membership of the authority, subject to subsection (2) of this section.

1 (2) The Governor shall appoint at least eight individuals to serve as members of the au-
2 thority from among state agency leadership, local emergency managers and others with ex-
3 pertise in emergency management. The Governor shall seek the advice of the Oregon
4 Homeland Security Council when making appointments to the authority. Members of the
5 authority serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

6 (3) If the Governor declares a state of emergency under ORS 401.165, the Governor may
7 activate the authority. The authority remains activated until deactivated by order of the
8 Governor. The authority may remain activated notwithstanding the termination of a state
9 of emergency.

10 (4) When activated, the authority shall:

11 (a) Coordinate initial crisis services;

12 (b) Coordinate recovery and mitigation efforts throughout this state, using a framework
13 aligned with emergency support functions as defined by the Federal Emergency Management
14 Agency; and

15 (c) Coordinate the provision of emergency funding and other aid to local governments or
16 private entities.

17 (5) A majority of the members of the authority constitutes a quorum for the transaction
18 of business.

19 (6) Official action by the authority requires the approval of a majority of the members
20 of the authority.

21 (7) The Governor shall appoint one of the members of the authority to serve as chair-
22 person.

23 (8) The authority shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the Governor or
24 the chairperson. The authority may meet at times when the authority is not activated to
25 maintain readiness in the event of an emergency.

26 (9) The authority may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the authority.

27 (10) The Office of the Governor shall provide staff support to the authority.

28 (11) Members of the authority are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for
29 expenses and serve as volunteers on the authority.

30 (12) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
31 the authority in the performance of the duties of the authority and, to the extent permitted
32 by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the
33 authority consider necessary to perform their duties.

34 SECTION 25. (1) If the Oregon Disaster Recovery Authority established under section 24
35 of this 2026 Act is activated pursuant to a declaration of emergency, the Governor may hire
36 additional state agency personnel under this section.

37 (2) Additional personnel hired under this section:

38 (a) May be placed at any state agency, including the Office of the Governor;

39 (b) Must perform duties related to the emergency, which may include taking over duties
40 previously performed by other state agency personnel who have been reassigned to
41 emergency-related tasks; and

42 (c) Must have their employment terminated no later than the date the authority is de-
43 activated under section 24 of this 2026 Act.

44 (3) Notwithstanding any other law relating to state government employment, additional
45 personnel hired under this section may be recruited and selected through any means the

Governor deems appropriate.

(4) The Governor's hiring authority under this section is subject to the availability of funding. The compensation of additional personnel hired under this section may be paid from the Oregon Disaster Recovery Authority Fund established under section 26 of this 2026 Act.

SECTION 26. The Oregon Disaster Recovery Authority Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The Oregon Disaster Recovery Authority Fund consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the fund by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Office of the Governor to pay for compensation for personnel hired under section 25 of this 2026 Act.

OREGON PREPAREDNESS GRANT ACCOUNT

SECTION 27. The Oregon Preparedness Grant Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The Oregon Preparedness Grant Account consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the fund by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. Moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management for providing grants to local governments, as defined in ORS 174.116, and tribal governments to support their compliance with ORS 401.305 (2).

ODEM DUTIES

SECTION 28. ORS 401.114 is amended to read:

401.114. The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall carry out the following functions:

(1) Coordinate emergency management functions on a regional basis within this state;

(2) Coordinate training related to emergency response on a regional basis within this state;

[and]

(3) Develop and carry out emergency preparedness exercises on a statewide basis[.];

(4) **Oversee collaboration, cooperation and coordination between the state and organizations involved in the emergency stockpile plan described in ORS 401.111, the emergency preparedness equipment grant program described in ORS 401.551 and other stockpile or emergency preparedness programs carried out by state agencies;**

(5) **Take actions as necessary to ensure that supplies, equipment and other materials are appropriately staged in preparation for emergencies; and**

(6) **Develop and maintain an inventory plan for the sustainable procurement, rotation and management of emergency preparedness assets.**

RESILIENCE HUBS AND NETWORKS

SECTION 29. ORS 409.760 is amended to read:

409.760. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Resilience Hub" means a physical facility that is **created**, operated, managed or supported by one or more local residents, local governments, tribal governments, public schools, community-

1 based organizations, faith-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, [or] nongovernmental organ-
 2 izations **or any other groups or entities located in Oregon**, and that:

3 (A) Supports the needs of community members or tribal communities, facilitates gathering and
 4 communication, distributes resources and otherwise enhances quality of life within a community;

5 (B) Serves as a central point for gathering, information sharing, and coordination in response
 6 to a disruption in the community;

7 (C) Enhances the ability of a community to respond to and recover from a disruption in a com-
 8 munity;

9 (D) Is positioned, operated and resourced on a day-to-day basis, **during a disruption and during**
 10 **recovery**, to provide community resources, including but not limited to food, water, information
 11 exchange, electronic charging stations, basic medical supplies and equipment proportionate to the
 12 size of the community's population and needs;

13 (E) Supports community cache sites and other support for community members who shelter in
 14 place;

15 (F) Can provide child care, training, food distribution and other services that can help a com-
 16 munity respond to unmet [social] needs to prepare for, respond to and recover from **adverse events,**
 17 **emergencies or** disasters;

18 (G) Can provide, or can be retrofitted to provide, heating, cooling, air filtration and weather
 19 protection; and

20 (H) Accommodates individuals with accessibility needs.

21 (b) "Resilience Network" means an association of facilities, organizations, resource providers
 22 or service providers [*outside of a physical Resilience Hub facility that collectively serve the purposes*
 23 *of a Resilience Hub*] **that collectively supports community members to prepare for, adapt to**
 24 **or respond to social, emotional and physical disruption generated by ongoing climate change**
 25 **or other causes, and during and after an adverse event, emergency or disaster.**

26 (2) The Department of Human Services shall, in consultation with the State Department of En-
 27 ergy and the Oregon Health Authority, provide grants, [*support and technical assistance for*] **equip-**
 28 **ment, technical assistance, contracted services and any other type of support to individuals**
 29 **or organizations located in Oregon for creating or sustaining** Resilience Hubs and **Resilience**
 30 **Networks in Oregon.** The Department of Human Services shall award:

31 (a) Grants for expenses related to planning and organizing Resilience Hubs and **Resilience**
 32 **Networks**;

33 (b) Grants to support and expand development and operation of Resilience Hubs and **Resilience**
 34 **Networks** to ensure that physical facilities can provide protection from extreme weather, can
 35 maintain power and climate during power outages, have auxiliary communications capabilities and
 36 are resilient following earthquakes, fires, tornadoes, floods, other extreme weather events and other
 37 potential **adverse events, emergencies or** disasters[, *emergencies or incidents*]; and

38 (c) Grants for resources and services needed by communities to otherwise prepare for and re-
 39 spond to **adverse events, emergencies or** disasters.

40 (3) Individuals or organizations **located in Oregon and serving people in this state** may apply
 41 for grants by submitting an application that must include:

42 (a) A description of the purposes for which grant moneys will be expended, **including a de-**
 43 **scription of the services to be provided to the community by the Resilience Hub or Resilience**
 44 **Network**;

45 (b) A plan for implementing specific strategies to build resilience in a community;

(c) A description of additional resources available for purposes of the Resilience Hub or **Resilience** Network;

(d) A description of the project's ability to serve vulnerable populations and communities traditionally underrepresented in the public process, including communities of color, communities experiencing lower incomes, tribal communities, rural communities, coastal communities, communities with limited infrastructure, seniors, youth and persons with disabilities; and

(e) Any other information required by the department.

(4) The department shall execute grant agreements with grant recipients obligating recipients to use grant moneys for purposes specified in the grant agreements. The department, in consultation with the State Department of Energy and the Oregon Health Authority, shall determine the permissible purposes, **applicant eligibility requirements, types of awards for a grant and eligible equipment, technical assistance, services and support** under this section based on the needs of the Resilience Hub or **Resilience** Network. The department shall determine the needs of the Resilience Hub or **Resilience** Network in consultation with the community, including populations described in subsection (3)(d) of this section, within the locality in which the Resilience Hub or **Resilience** Network operates.

(5) The Department of Human Services shall adopt rules necessary for the administration of this section, including specifying the form and contents of an application for a grant under this section.

OVERNIGHT TRAINING ACTIVITIES

SECTION 30. Notwithstanding any other provision of state or local law, a facility that receives funding under section 15 of this 2026 Act is authorized to host overnight training activities.

COUNTY AUTHORITY TO WAIVE CIVIL PENALTIES

SECTION 31. A county governing body may, by order or resolution, waive a civil penalty imposed by the Oregon Health Authority or a local health authority under ORS 624.992 if the civil penalty is imposed for a violation that occurred during a state of emergency declared under ORS 401.165.

ONGOING PROGRAM FUNDING

SECTION 32. On or before July 1, 2027, the standing or interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means shall identify a sustainable, ongoing revenue source to pay for programs at facilities funded under section 15 of this 2026 Act.

DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

SECTION 33. The Department of the State Fire Marshal shall conduct a study of health coverage disparities between paid and volunteer firefighters. The department shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to emergency management no later than September 15, 2027.

1 **SECTION 34.** Section 33 of this 2026 Act is repealed on January 2, 2028.

2
3 **FINGERPRINTING BY ODEM**

4
5 **SECTION 35.** For the purpose of requesting a state or nationwide criminal records check
6 under ORS 181A.195, the Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall require the
7 fingerprints of a person who:

- 8 (1) Is employed or applying for employment by the department; or
9 (2) Provides or seeks to provide services to the department as a contractor, subcontrac-
10 tor, vendor or volunteer.

11
12 **PUBLIC AND INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

13
14 **SECTION 36.** Sections 37 to 40 of this 2026 Act are added to and made a part of ORS
15 chapter 401.

16 **SECTION 37.** (1) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management shall establish and
17 administer a state infrastructure emergency recovery grant program, to be known as the
18 Oregon Public Assistance Grant Program, to issue grants to qualified recipients, subject to
19 available funding.

20 (2) Grants under the program must be used to pay for work performed before, during or
21 after an emergency to protect public health, safety or property, including, without limitation,
22 debris removal and work to protect or restore public services or public infrastructure.

23 (3) The Governor may activate the program if:

24 (a) The Governor determines that an emergency has occurred or is imminent and finds
25 that assistance from the state is warranted; and

26 (b) The department recommends that the program be activated.

27 (4) The Governor shall inactivate the program when the Governor finds that assistance
28 from the state is no longer warranted.

29 (5) While the program is active, the department may issue grants to qualified recipients
30 pursuant to requests from counties or tribal entities. A request on behalf of a city may be
31 made by the county in which a geographic majority of the city lies. Requests must be in
32 writing and must include the following information:

33 (a) Confirmation that the requester has taken appropriate action under the local emer-
34 gency plan;

35 (b) An estimate of the amount and severity of damages and losses and a description of
36 the impact of the emergency on the public and private sectors;

37 (c) A description of the nature and amount of local resources which have been or will
38 be committed to alleviate the results of the emergency;

39 (d) A preliminary estimate of the types and amount of supplementary state emergency
40 assistance needed; and

41 (e) A certification by the requester that the obligations and expenditures for the current
42 emergency will comply with all applicable cost sharing requirements agreed between the de-
43 partment and the requester.

44 (6) The department may adopt rules to administer and implement the provisions of this
45 section, including rules governing eligibility requirements, the form and manner of requests

and evaluation of requests by the department.

(7) As used in this section, “qualified recipient” means:

(a) A state agency;

(b) A local government;

(c) A federally recognized Indian tribe in Oregon;

(d) A school district or education service district; and

(e) A nonprofit organization that provides critical services or essential social services, such as a hospital, long term care facility, school, community center, food assistance program or shelter.

SECTION 38. The Oregon Public Assistance Grant Program Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the account must be credited to the account. The account consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the account by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise and interest earned on moneys in the account. The moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management to carry out the Oregon Public Assistance Grant Program described in section 37 of this 2026 Act. The department shall ensure that no more than 10 percent of the moneys in the account are used to pay costs of coordination and distribution of assistance under the program.

SECTION 39. (1) The Department of Human Services shall establish and administer an individual grant program, to be known as the Oregon Individual Assistance Grant Program, to issue grants to address critical emergency-related needs of qualified individuals, subject to available funding.

(2) The Governor may activate the program if:

(a) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management recommends that the program be activated, the Governor determines that an emergency has occurred or is imminent and the Governor finds that assistance from the state is warranted; or

(b) The Governor has declared an emergency under ORS 401.165.

(3) The Governor shall inactivate the program when the Governor finds that assistance from the state is no longer warranted.

(4) While the program is active, the Department of Human Services may issue grants pursuant to requests from counties or tribal entities. A request on behalf of a city may be made by the county in which a geographic majority of the city lies. Requests must be in writing and must include the following information:

(a) Confirmation that the requester has taken appropriate action under the local emergency plan;

(b) An estimate of the amount and severity of damages and losses and a description of the impact of the emergency on individuals and households;

(c) A description of the nature and amount of local resources which have been or will be committed to alleviate the results of the emergency; and

(d) A preliminary estimate of the types and amount of supplementary state emergency assistance needed.

(5) Grants under the program may be used only to pay for:

(a) The provision of services to qualified individuals for critical emergency-related needs, which may include, without limitation:

(A) Temporary rental assistance;

(B) Hazard mitigation assistance;

(C) Repair or replacement of owner-occupied homes that serve as a primary residence, including repair or replacement of privately owned access routes;

(D) Assistance with immediate needs;

(E) Essential personal property assistance;

(F) Assistance with other serious needs that are not covered by insurance; and

(G) Other critical emergency recovery services as approved by the Oregon Department of Emergency Management; and

(b) Agreements with local governments, tribal entities or disaster recovery organizations for the delivery of services described in paragraph (a) of this subsection, including payments for staffing or other administrative needs.

(6) Assistance to individuals may be in the form of direct financial assistance or payments to another entity on behalf of individuals.

(7) The Department of Human Services, in consultation with the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, may adopt rules to administer and implement the provisions of this section.

(8) The Oregon Department of Emergency Management, in consultation with the Department of Human Services, shall update the statewide emergency management plan prepared under ORS 401.052 to incorporate the Oregon Individual Assistance Grant Program into statewide disaster response and recovery planning. The plan must include, without limitation, provisions for equitable distribution of assistance, coordination with local governments and community-based organizations, and integration with federal recovery programs when applicable.

(9) As used in this section:

(a) "Hazard mitigation" means actions taken to reduce impacts of future emergencies.

(b) "Immediate need" means:

(A) A life-saving or life-sustaining item or activity that is essential to prevent, mitigate or overcome an adverse condition caused by an emergency; and

(B) Other equipment that is essential for daily household needs.

(c) "Qualified individual" means:

(A) An individual who is displaced by an emergency from the individual's primary residence;

(B) An individual whose primary residence is rendered uninhabitable by an emergency; or

(C) An individual with a disability whose primary residence is rendered inaccessible or uninhabitable to the individual as a result of damage caused by an emergency.

SECTION 40. The Oregon Individual Assistance Grant Program Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the account must be credited to the account. The account consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the account by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise and interest earned on moneys in the account. The moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. The department may make moneys in the account available to the Department of Human Services to carry out the Oregon Individual Assistance Grant Program described in section 39 of this 2026 Act.

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CAPTIONS

SECTION 41. The unit captions used in this 2026 Act are provided only for the convenience of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any legislative intent in the enactment of this 2026 Act.
