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Legislative Emergency Board allocates $24.35 million toward urgent needs in Oregon

SALEM, Ore. – The Joint Legislative Emergency Board today allocated $24.35 million in emergency funding for critical statewide needs, including flood damage in Northeast Oregon, coronavirus response and efforts to curb statewide greenhouse gas pollution.

Below is a distribution breakdown of the funding:

**Flood response**
Communities in Northeast Oregon need additional resources in order to respond to the extensive property and infrastructure damage caused by last month’s flooding in Umatilla, Union and Wallowa counties. The Emergency Board allocated:

- $7.5 million to develop affordable housing units, rapid rehousing, rental assistance, and housing and infrastructure replacement.
- $3.3 million to reimburse the City of Pendleton for levee repairs and business reimbursements not covered by insurance.
- $850,000 to the Blue Mountain Foundation and City of Milton-Freewater for housing rehabilitation and cleanup costs.

**Coronavirus response**
Following Governor Kate Brown’s state of emergency declaration on Sunday to give Oregon additional resources to combat coronavirus, the Emergency Board allocated:
• $5 million to Oregon Health Authority to support the agency’s coronavirus (COVID-19) response. This allocation will increase the amount of federal funds available for statewide coronavirus response, if the federal government allocates funding to Oregon.

Greenhouse gas emission reduction
As Oregon continues to face the impacts of the growing climate crisis, the Emergency Board allocated:

• $5 million to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for rulemaking and other actions in order to reduce greenhouse gas pollution throughout the state.

Emergency preparedness
In preparation for future emergencies, including public health risks from disease, wildfire and future seismic events, the Emergency Board allocated:

• $2.7 million to the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) for emergency preparedness and response training, planning and activities.

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