

Emergency Management



This Legislative Summary Report highlights Emergency Management policy measures that received a public hearing in a policy committee during the 2023 regular legislative session. The report is organized by sub-topics and includes the measure number; the measure status: enacted [✓] or not enacted [✗]; and a brief description of the measure.

Emergency Management sub-topics:

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Disaster and Emergency Response
- Emergency Coordination and Communication
- Emergency Responders
- Recovery Efforts

Disaster and Emergency Preparedness

SB 894 A	✗	Would have allowed the State Treasurer to issue \$20.1 million Article XI-Q bonds to support the Oregon State Fair and Exposition Center's use as a regional emergency and evacuee center.
HB 2873 A	✗	Would have authorized \$10 million in bonds for the Oregon Department of Emergency Management's Resiliency Grant Funds.
HB 2948 A	✗	Would have required the Oregon Department of Emergency Management to develop a grant program for infrastructure improvements at fairgrounds used as emergency evacuation sites.
HB 3058	✓	Requires the Oregon Department of Aviation to conduct a study to develop a plan for strategic investments in airports for infrastructure resilience.
HB 3282	✗	Would have authorized \$3 million in General Funds to the City of Gold Beach to relocate the city's firefighting facilities and equipment out of the tsunami inundation zone.
HB 3484 A	✗	Would have established the State Fire Marshal Mobilization Fund for emergency mobilization and pre-positioning activities.
HB 3486	✗	Would have required newly constructed large rooms in schools or community colleges of high seismic activity to be designed as earthquake shelters.

Disaster and Emergency Response

- HB 2854 A ✗ Would have created two new accounts under the Oregon Disaster Response Plan to address unmet needs during and after state-declared emergencies: the Oregon Public Assistance Grant Account for public and private entities, and the Oregon Individual Assistance Grant Account for households and individuals.
- HB 3059 ✓ Creates the Oregon Disaster Response Assistance Matching Fund, grants a tax benefit to emergency management volunteers, establishes a compliance division within the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, provides paid leave for public employees volunteering to respond to disaster relief or recovery services, and requires the Department of Emergency Management to provide technical assistance to local private and public entities on emergency management and fundraising.
- HB 3143 ✓ Authorizes a public utility, upon approval by the Public Utility Commission, to issue bonds and securitize debt for costs and expenses incurred by a public utility associated with events subject to a federal or state declaration of emergency. **(Bill is also included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment)**

Emergency Coordination and Communication

- SB 962 A ✗ Would have directed the Oregon Department of Emergency Management to develop and implement a grant program to distribute money to certain counties to fund emergency preparedness coordinators.
- HB 2484 ✓ Directs the Department of the State Fire Marshal to oversee the state's statewide urban search and rescue functions.
- HB 2508 ✗ Would have directed the Department of Emergency Management to develop and administer a grant program to consolidate, modernize, or upgrade 9-1-1 call centers.
- HB 2522 ✓ Instructs the State Fire Marshal to establish and appoint a Rural Structural Fire Protection Review Committee to review statutes and develop recommendations to improve rural fire protection districts.
- HB 2764 B ✗ Would have established the Missing Endangered Person Alert System.



Emergency Responders

- HB 2520 ✓ Creates a Class A violation for reckless interference with an aircraft if a person is recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally using drones to interfere with wildfire suppression, law enforcement, or emergency response efforts.
- HB 3426 ✓ Requires 9-8-8 suicide and crisis hotline center to establish policies and train staff to provide specialized and culturally competent support to firefighters and other first responders.
- HB 3485 ✓ Adds additional discretionary powers to the Department of the State Fire Marshal.

Recovery Efforts

- SB 443 ✗ Would have required electric companies to reimburse qualified customers up to \$250 for the purchase price of a backup power source when power shutoff is likely to occur and last for eight or more hours.
- HB 2812 ✓ Allows a reduction in state taxes for personal casualty loss incurred from an event subject to a state emergency disaster declaration.
- HB 2898 ✓ Extends the time from 24 months to five years, that a recreational vehicle may be sited on the same property as a single-family dwelling deemed uninhabitable due to a natural disaster.

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