

FINAL BILL REPORT

2SHB 1728

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Creating a statewide resiliency program.

Sponsors: House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Donaghy, Rule, Reeves, Morgan, Ramel, Reed and Leavitt).

House Committee on Innovation, Community & Economic Development, & Veterans
House Committee on Appropriations
Senate Committee on State Government & Elections
Senate Committee on Ways & Means

Background:

The Military Department administers the state's comprehensive emergency management program. The Adjutant General is responsible for developing and maintaining a comprehensive, all-hazard emergency plan for the state that includes an analysis of natural, technological, or human-caused hazards and procedures to coordinate state and local resources in responding to such hazards.

Summary:

The Emergency Management Division (EMD) within the Military Department must develop and administer a disaster resilience program. The program should include:

- methods for ensuring ongoing coordination of state and local disaster resilience and response activities, including:
 - coordinating funding to maximize federal, state, local, and private investments;
 - serving as a public and private disaster resilience resource center;
 - enhancing interagency collaboration, education, and outreach programs; and
 - identifying and leveraging respective roles, authorities, and expertise of agencies;
- strategies for addressing the impacts of all hazards, both natural and human-caused, such as border closures, including:

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- developing, coordinating, and communicating disaster resilience initiatives and projects across state agencies and local governments on hazards and issues where there is not another lead agency for coordinating resilience activities, including projects that give special consideration to exclave communities;
- conducting policy research and recommendations related to enhancing disaster resilience;
- coordinating research, data collection, and analysis;
- researching economic tools to address disaster resilience; and
- recommending investments to mitigate risks from all threats and hazards; and
- participating and collaborating in interagency efforts to advance statewide climate resilience activities, including collaborating on the development of a statewide strategy and identifying opportunities to leverage funding to advance solutions that improve the resilience of communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems.

Before July 1, 2025, the EMD must provide a report to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature on the overall progress of disaster resilience efforts for the hazards and issues where there is not another lead agency for coordinating resilience activities. Other agencies with responsibilities for resilience activities are encouraged to include an update on their efforts and any associated policy recommendations as an appendix to the report.

"Resilience" is defined as the ability to prepare, mitigate, plan for, withstand, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse events and changing conditions, and reorganize in an equitable manner that results in a new and better condition.

"Disaster resilience" is defined as resilience within the critical infrastructure sectors of emergency services, communications, critical government facilities, transportation, critical manufacturing, commercial facilities, chemical manufacturing and distribution, water and wastewater treatment, and dams, excluding power generation.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	68	28
Senate	29	20

Effective: July 23, 2023