

May 11, 2021

Oregon Progressive Party Independent Party of Oregon



Position on Bills at 2021 Session of Oregon Legislature:

Dear Committee: **Support HB 2605A**

The Oregon Progressive Party and Independent Party of Oregon support this bill, which would:

- Impose tsunami design standards for certain buildings and other structures.
- Allow local government to impose vertical evacuation standards for new or existing buildings and other structures as part of local tsunami evacuation plan.
- Require that sites for new structures be evaluated for vulnerability to seismic geologic hazards if structures are major structures or are designated as having specified tsunami risk for design.
- Require developer of building designated as having specified tsunami risk for design to request determination, scientific evidence and recommendations from State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.
- Require department to report annually regarding requests, determinations and suggestions.

A crucial provision of this bill is:

(4) Before submitting design plans for a proposed building designated under section 1 of this 2021 Act as Tsunami Risk Category III or IV for design, the developer shall request consultation from the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries with respect to the impacts from potential tsunami activity on the proposed building and the department shall provide the developer with the best available scientific evidence of potential impacts. The department shall make a determination as to the likely impacts and recommend any design or other changes to mitigate the impacts that the department deems advisable or necessary. The department shall notify the developer and the official responsible for approving the development not later than 45 days after receiving the developer's request. An official that approves the development shall include the department's determination and recommendations with permit documents for the building.

This does not allow DOGAMI to mandate design or other changes to the proposed building. It authorizes DOGAMI to "recommend any design or other changes."

Oregon Progressive Party

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