

## **Proposed Substitute House Bill 1728 (H-1275.2/23)**

House Innovation, Community & Economic Development, & Veterans Committee

By Representative Donaghy

**Original Bill:** Creating a statewide resiliency program.

- Requires the Military Department to develop and administer a statewide resiliency program.

### **Proposed Substitute House Bill (H-1275.2/23) compared to the Original Bill:**

- Changes references to "resiliency" to "resilience";
- Removes language suggesting that the statewide resilience program include a coordinated long-term resiliency strategy, including projects supporting climate resiliency;
- Adds identifying and leveraging respective roles, authorities, and expertise of agencies to the statewide resilience program;
- Provides that resilience projects and initiatives relate to hazards and issues where there is not another lead agency for coordinating resilience activities;
- Removes support functions to agencies, departments, tribes and other stakeholders for improving ecosystem resiliency from the statewide resilience program;
- Adds participating and collaborating in interagency efforts to advance statewide climate resilience activities to the statewide resilience program; and
- Requires the Emergency Management Division, beginning June 30, 2025, and every two years thereafter, to provide a report to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature on the overall progress of resilience efforts for hazards and issues where there is not another lead agency for coordinating resilience activities.

Staff: Cassie Jones  
Date: February 14, 2023

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**BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE**

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BILL REQ. #: H-1275.2/23 2nd draft

ATTY/TYPIST: MW:eab

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Creating a statewide resiliency program.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a statewide resiliency program;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 38.52 RCW; and creating a new  
3 section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Washington state residents have been  
6 increasingly impacted by natural disasters such as floods,  
7 landslides, wildfires, earthquakes, and the COVID-19 pandemic and  
8 they continue to be at risk from these and other natural disasters,  
9 with communities of color and vulnerable populations  
10 disproportionately impacted. The legislature finds that it is  
11 critical to better prepare Washington for disasters and to mitigate  
12 the impacts with coordinated resiliency strategies. The legislature  
13 further finds a resilient Washington increases quality of life for  
14 Washingtonians while every one dollar spent on mitigation saves six  
15 dollars spent on recovery. To address this critical need, the  
16 legislature intends to implement a statewide resilience program for  
17 the benefit of all Washingtonians while conserving expenditures by  
18 both public and private sectors.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 38.52  
20 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
2 specific purpose, the emergency management division within the  
3 department shall develop and administer a statewide resilience  
4 program. The program should include:

5 (a) Methods for ensuring ongoing coordination of state and local  
6 resilience and response activities, including:

7 (i) Developing, administering, tracking, and communicating  
8 progress of overall resilience efforts;

9 (ii) Coordinating funding to maximize federal, state, local, and  
10 private investments;

11 (iii) Serving as a public and private resilience resource center;

12 (iv) Enhancing interagency collaboration, education, and outreach  
13 programs; and

14 (v) Identifying and leveraging respective roles, authorities, and  
15 expertise of agencies;

16 (b) Strategies for addressing the impacts of all hazards, both  
17 natural and human-caused, including:

18 (i) Developing, coordinating, and communicating resilience  
19 initiatives and projects across state agencies and local governments  
20 on hazards and issues where there is not another lead agency for  
21 coordinating resilience activities;

22 (ii) Conducting policy research and recommendations related to  
23 enhancing resilience;

24 (iii) Coordinating research, data collection, and analysis;

25 (iv) Researching economic tools to address resilience; and

26 (v) Recommending investments to mitigate risks from all hazards;  
27 and

28 (c) Participating and collaborating in interagency efforts to  
29 advance statewide climate resilience activities under chapter 70A.05  
30 RCW, including collaborating on the development of a statewide  
31 strategy and identifying opportunities to leverage funding to advance  
32 solutions that improve the resilience of communities, infrastructure,  
33 and ecosystems.

34 (2) Beginning June 30, 2025, and every two years thereafter, the  
35 emergency management division shall provide a report to the office of  
36 the governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature on the  
37 overall progress of resilience efforts for the hazards and issues  
38 where there is not another lead agency for coordinating resilience  
39 activities. Agencies with responsibilities for resilience activities  
40 are encouraged to include their efforts as an appendix to the report.

1           (3) For purposes of this section, "resilience" means the ability  
2 to prepare, mitigate, plan for, withstand, recover from, and more  
3 successfully adapt to adverse events and changing conditions, and  
4 reorganize in an equitable manner that results in a new and better  
5 condition.

--- **END** ---