Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Housing, Community Development & Veterans Committee

HB 1200

Brief Description: Addressing catastrophic incidents that are natural or human-caused emergencies by providing guidance that may be used by state public schools to plan for seismic catastrophic incidents.

Sponsors: Representatives Dolan, Mosbrucker, Leavitt, Klippert, Kilduff, Reeves, Goodman, Tarleton, Chapman and Doglio; by request of Military Department.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Washington Military Development (MIL) to include a catastrophic incident emergency response plan in the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.
- Requires the MIL, in consultation with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to develop guidance for catastrophic incident plans for local schools.

Hearing Date: 1/29/19

Staff: Serena Dolly (786-7150).

Background:

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

Summary of Bill:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

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A catastrophic incident is defined as any natural or human-caused emergency or disaster event, including terrorism and enemy attack, that is expected to result in extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage, or disruption severely affecting the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, or government functions.

The Adjutant General must develop and maintain a catastrophic incident emergency response plan to be included in the state's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. The catastrophic incident emergency response plan must include an analysis of the natural, technological, or human-caused hazards that could affect the state and the procedures to coordinate state and local resources.

In consultation with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Adjutant General must develop guidance that may be used by local school districts in developing, maintaining, training, and exercising catastrophic incident plans.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 16, 2019.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.