Senator Lora Reinbold

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32nd Legislature Committees:

Vice Chair Legislative Council Vice Chair Senate State Affairs Senate Member: Legislative Budget & Audit Health & Social Services Joint Armed Services Committee

1/29/22

Sponsor Statement

SB 144 Disaster Emergencies

"An act relating to disaster emergencies."

SB 144 Disaster Emergencies seeks to restore the separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches. During such unprecedented times, the separation of powers is critical ensuring all three are involved. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the executive branch took broad latitude declaring disasters consecutively for the same reason, usurping the legislature in the process. SB 144 seeks to ensure when another disaster occurs, if needed beyond 30 days, the legislature is included in the process of declaring a consecutive disaster.