

House Bill 2603

Sponsored by Representative KRUMMEL; Representatives BRUUN, CAMERON, FLORES, G SMITH, P SMITH, THATCHER

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires employees of Legislative Administration Committee to post material on or install links from official webpage of member of Legislative Assembly in manner directed by member.

Specifies that member of Legislative Assembly who directs posting of material or installation of link is liable for violation of law that may result.

Provides that Legislative Administration Committee employee who posts material or installs link is not liable for violation of law that may result.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Legislative Assembly website; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 171.795
3 and 173.766.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 173.766 is amended to read:

6 173.766. (1) The Legislative Administration Committee shall make available to each member of
7 the Legislative Assembly an electronic mail address accessible by Oregonians through the largest
8 nonproprietary, nonprofit cooperative public computer network.

9 (2) All state agencies shall cooperate with the Legislative Administration Committee in the im-
10 plementation of **subsection (1) of this section** and ORS 171.795, 173.763 and 183.365.

11 **(3) If the Legislative Administration Committee makes available to each member of the**
12 **Legislative Assembly a webpage on the website of the Legislative Assembly, employees of the**
13 **committee shall post material on a member's webpage or install or maintain links from the**
14 **member's webpage to other websites in the manner directed by the member. If the posting**
15 **of material or installation or maintenance of a link results in a violation of law:**

16 **(a) The member who directed the posting of material or installation or maintenance of**
17 **the link is liable for the violation; and**

18 **(b) An employee of the committee who posts the material or installs or maintains the**
19 **link at the direction of a member is not liable for the violation.**

20 **(4) Subsection (3) of this section does not authorize the posting of material or the in-**
21 **stallation or maintenance of any link that is prohibited by any other law.**

22 **SECTION 2.** ORS 171.795 is amended to read:

23 171.795. (1) The Legislative Assembly finds and declares that it is now possible and feasible in
24 this electronic age to distribute information more widely by way of electronic communication. The
25 Legislative Assembly further finds that it is desirable to make information available to the citizens
26 of this state in a timely manner and for the least possible cost. The use of electronic communication
27 will:

28 (a) Better inform the public of legislative proceedings and matters pending before the Legislative

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 Assembly;

2 (b) Allow broader participation among Oregonians in the legislative process;

3 (c) Make information regarding legislative matters and proceedings more readily available to the
4 citizens of this state;

5 (d) Allow constituents to better communicate with their elected representatives, irrespective of
6 where they reside;

7 (e) Make administrative rules adopted or amended by state agencies more readily available to
8 the citizens of this state; and

9 (f) Provide the public with a better insight into the operations of state government.

10 (2) This section and ORS 173.763, 173.766 (1) **and** (2) and 183.365 may be cited as the Oregon
11 Public Access Act.

12 **SECTION 3. The amendments to ORS 171.795 and 173.766 by sections 1 and 2 of this 2007**
13 **Act apply to material posted and links installed or maintained on or after the effective date**
14 **of this 2007 Act.**

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