

Senate Bill 60

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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 Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service to identify goals for developing and facilitating initiation of public and private programs that encourage and reward citizen participation and volunteerism. Authorizes Housing and Community Services Department to adopt rules and develop procedures to foster initiation of programs that fulfill commission goals. Expands purposes for which commission may seek grants, contributions and assistance. Creates commission duty to make reports and recommendations.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service; creating new pro-
3 visions; amending ORS 458.568 and 458.575; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2007 Act may be cited as the Oregon Volunteer and Com-**
6 **munity Service Act.**

7 **SECTION 2. (1) The Legislative Assembly declares that the purpose of this section is to**
8 **promote the development of better communities by using citizen participation and**
9 **volunteerism to foster greater civic responsibility.**

10 **(2) The Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service shall identify**
11 **goals to develop and facilitate the initiation of public and private entity programs that will**
12 **encourage and reward citizen participation and volunteerism. The Housing and Community**
13 **Services Department may adopt rules and develop procedures appropriate to foster the ini-**
14 **tiation of programs that fulfill the citizen participation and volunteerism goals recommended**
15 **by the commission. The programs developed and facilitated by the commission goals and de-**
16 **partment rules and procedures must have one or more of the following objectives:**

17 **(a) To place increased priority on citizen participation and volunteerism as a means for**
18 **addressing complex problems facing Oregon communities.**

19 **(b) To encourage community leaders to implement strategies that recognize community**
20 **volunteers as a valuable and much-needed asset for expanding civic responsibility.**

21 **(c) To promote the concept and practice of business and corporate volunteering, with**
22 **emphasis on communities where business and corporate volunteering initiatives are less de-**
23 **veloped.**

24 **(d) To increase the enthusiasm, dedication and combined expertise of citizens and public**
25 **and private entities for creating new ways to effectively use citizen participation and**
26 **volunteerism in meeting the current and future challenges facing Oregon communities.**

27 **(e) To increase the alignment between community volunteer resources and the goals of**

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 **the state.**

2 **(f) To implement policy and administrative changes that encourage and enable citizen**
 3 **participation and volunteerism by individuals.**

4 **(g) To encourage nonprofit agencies to increase effectiveness and efficiency by including**
 5 **the use of volunteers in their service delivery systems.**

6 **(h) To promote and support the concept of participation and volunteerism by all citizens**
 7 **as an effective means to address community needs and achieve a collective commitment to**
 8 **lifelong community service.**

9 **(i) To recognize National Volunteer Week as a time for encouraging citizens to partic-**
 10 **ipate in community service projects.**

11 **(j) To recognize the importance of individual volunteers and of volunteer and service or-**
 12 **ganizations and to honor and celebrate the success of volunteers.**

13 **SECTION 3.** ORS 458.568 is amended to read:

14 458.568. The Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service shall:

15 (1) Develop programs and provide oversight and administration of programs granted to this state
 16 by the Corporation for National and Community Service under the National and Community Service
 17 Trust Act of 1993, as amended, (P.L. 103-82).

18 (2) Prepare state applications to the Corporation for National and Community Service for fi-
 19 nancial assistance for state-based service programs.

20 (3) Develop a statewide plan that is designed to meet or exceed the Oregon benchmark on
 21 volunteerism.

22 (4) Develop projects, training methods, curriculum materials and other materials and activities
 23 related to state service programs that receive assistance directly from the Corporation for National
 24 and Community Service.

25 (5) To engage citizens in service and to strengthen communities, create statewide access for all
 26 Oregon citizens to a variety of volunteer opportunities by:

27 (a) Evaluating the status of volunteerism in the public, private and nonprofit sectors of this
 28 state;

29 (b) Examining methods to strengthen the capacity of volunteer organizations to support citizen
 30 involvement; and

31 (c) Educating all citizens about the importance of citizen involvement and voluntary action.

32 (6) Encourage youth and young adults to engage in their communities through voluntary action
 33 by:

34 (a) Assisting efforts to inform young Oregonians about opportunities for involvement in the
 35 public, private and nonprofit sectors;

36 (b) Promoting the value of service learning as an educational strategy in the kindergarten
 37 through higher educational systems; and

38 (c) Collaborating with groups to advocate for youth voice in the public, private and nonprofit
 39 governing structures.

40 (7) Promote recognition of volunteerism and service into the daily operation of public, private
 41 and nonprofit sectors throughout the state by:

42 (a) Promoting a statewide volunteer recognition plan open to all sectors; and

43 (b) Assisting efforts by Oregon communities to encourage citizen involvement in volunteerism.

44 **(8) Biennially submit a report to the Governor and the Legislative Assembly as provided**
 45 **under ORS 192.230 to 192.245:**

1 (a) Detailing commission activities during the preceding two-year period;

2 (b) Reviewing and summarizing, to the extent the commission deems relevant, the con-
3 tent of reports accepted by the commission on behalf of the Governor;

4 (c) Assessing the state of volunteerism in Oregon; and

5 (d) Containing specific recommendations for any additional legislation the commission
6 deems necessary to carry out the purpose of the Oregon Volunteer and Community Service
7 Act or to improve the effectiveness or efficiency of the commission.

8 **SECTION 4.** ORS 458.575 is amended to read:

9 458.575. The Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service may apply for
10 and accept grants, contributions and assistance from any federal, state or local government agency
11 and any foundation, individual or organization for the purposes of [*performance of*]:

12 (1) **Performing** commission duties under ORS 458.568;

13 (2) **Implementing programs and policies necessary to carry out the duties, functions and**
14 **powers of the commission; or**

15 (3) **Assisting citizens and public and private entities in implementing commission pro-**
16 **grams and policies adopted under the Oregon Volunteer and Community Service Act.**

17 **SECTION 5.** This 2007 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
18 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2007 Act takes effect
19 on its passage.

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