Senate Bill 61

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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 adopt recommended best practices for use by organizations and entities for screening volunteers. Directs commission to give special attention to developing recommended best practices for screening volunteers who have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable persons. Requires commission to establish and maintain outreach program to advise organizations and entities on issues relating to volunteer screening and supervision and conduct of criminal records checks.

1 **A BILL FOR AN ACT**

2 Relating to Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service.

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

4 **SECTION 1. As used in sections 2 and 3 of this 2007 Act:**

5 **(1) "Child" means a person under 18 years of age.**

6 **(2) "Organizations and entities" means religious, charitable, scientific, educational, ath-**

7 **letic or service organizations or local government entities that use volunteers.**

8 **(3) "Services" means the provision of care, treatment, education, training, instruction,**

9 **supervision, transportation, recreation or support.**

10 **(4) "Unsupervised access" means a person is in the physical presence of a child or vul-**

11 **nerable person and:**

12 **(a) If in an enclosure, that no additional person aged 18 years or older is in the same**

13 **enclosure as the person and the child or vulnerable person; or**

14 **(b) If outdoors, that no additional person aged 18 years or older:**

15 **(A) Is within 30 yards of the person and the child or vulnerable person; or**

16 **(B) Has visual contact with the person and with the child or vulnerable person.**

17 **(5) "Vulnerable person" means a person who:**

18 **(a) Is not a child;**

19 **(b) Is in need of services because of mental or other disability, age or illness; and**

20 **(c) Is unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves against exploitation or**

21 **significant harm.**

22 **SECTION 2. The Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service shall**

23 **adopt a set of recommended best practices for use by organizations and entities in screening**

24 **volunteers. The commission shall give special attention to developing recommended best**

25 **practices for screening volunteers who have unsupervised access to a child or vulnerable**

26 **person. The commission shall:**

27 **(1) Develop practices that include, but need not be limited to, practices for screening and**

28 **supervising volunteers; and**

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   **(2) Develop a recommendation for conducting a criminal records check before a volunteer**

2   **assumes duties or provides services that may give the volunteer unsupervised access to a**

3   **child or vulnerable person on a regular basis.**

4   <u>SECTION 3.</u> **The Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service shall**

5   **establish and maintain an outreach program that makes available to organizations and enti-**

6   **ties information about:**

7   **(1) The best methods for screening and supervising volunteers;**

8   **(2) How to obtain a criminal records check of a volunteer;**

9   **(3) Confidentiality issues relating to criminal records check reports; and**

10   **(4) Keeping records of criminal records checks conducted by the organization or entity.**

11   <u>SECTION 4.</u> **The Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service shall**

12 **begin making outreach program information described in section 3 of this 2007 Act available**

13 **to organizations and entities no later than one year after the effective date of this 2007 Act.**

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