

B-Engrossed Senate Bill 753

Ordered by the House May 24
Including Senate Amendments dated April 25 and House Amendments
dated May 24

Sponsored by Senator MORRISETTE

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.

Requires that public bodies cooperate with and provide information requested by ombudsman established **or authorized** by law or designated by Governor. Directs state agency and officers to consult with Attorney General with respect to certain disputes arising out of requests for information by ombudsman.

[Provides that certain communications with ombudsman, and information provided to ombudsman, are confidential and ombudsman may decline to disclose communications or information in response to request for inspection of public records.]

Provides that communications made to ombudsman that are relevant to duties of ombudsman are confidential except for communications made by officer, employee or agent of public body.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to ombudsmen; amending ORS 182.500.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 182.500 is amended to read:

5 182.500. (1) If an agency or officer of the executive department, as defined by ORS 174.112,
6 designates a person to perform ombudsman services, the person shall report to the Governor in
7 writing at least once each quarter. A report shall include a summary of the services that the person
8 provided during the quarter and the person's recommendations for improving ombudsman services
9 and the services for which the person provides assistance.

10 **(2) All public bodies, as defined by ORS 174.109, shall cooperate with an ombudsman es-**
11 **tablished or specifically authorized by law, or designated by the Governor, and shall promptly**
12 **provide all information requested by the ombudsman that is relevant to the duties of the**
13 **ombudsman. Any person that contracts with a public body, as defined by ORS 174.109, shall**
14 **cooperate with an ombudsman established or authorized by law or designated by the Gover-**
15 **nor to the extent the ombudsman is investigating matters related to the contract, and shall**
16 **promptly provide all information requested by the ombudsman that is related to the contract**
17 **and relevant to the duties of the ombudsman. An agency or officer of the executive depart-**
18 **ment, as defined by ORS 174.112, shall consult with the Attorney General if there is any legal**
19 **dispute relating to:**

20 (a) **Whether confidential or other restricted information may be provided under this**
21 **subsection to an ombudsman; or**

22 (b) **Whether the ombudsman is seeking information that is relevant to the duties of the**
23 **ombudsman.**

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 **(3) Communications made to an ombudsman that are relevant to the duties of the om-**
2 **budsman are confidential except for communications made by an officer, employee or agent**
3 **of a public body, as defined by ORS 174.109.**

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