

Senate Bill 869

Sponsored by Senator WESTLUND

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**.

Lowers age for homeless or at-risk persons to be eligible for housing assistance.

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to emergency housing assistance; amending ORS 458.650.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 458.650 is amended to read:

458.650. (1) The Emergency Housing Account shall be administered by the Housing and Community Services Department to assist homeless persons and those persons who are at risk of becoming homeless. For purposes of this section, "account" means the Emergency Housing Account.

(2) The State Housing Council shall develop policy for giving grants to organizations that shall use the funds to provide to low and very low income persons, including but not limited to, persons more than ~~[65]~~ **64** years of age, disabled persons, farmworkers and Native Americans:

(a) Emergency shelters and attendant services;

(b) Transitional housing services designed to assist persons to make the transition from homelessness to permanent housing and economic independence;

(c) Supportive housing services to enable persons to continue living in their own homes or to provide in-home services for such persons for whom suitable programs do not exist in their geographic area;

(d) Programs that provide emergency payment of home payments, rents or utilities; or

(e) Some or all of the needs described in paragraphs (a) to (d) of this subsection.

(3)(a) The council shall require as a condition of awarding a grant that the organization demonstrate to the satisfaction of the council that the organization has the capacity to deliver any service proposed by the organization.

(b) Any funds granted under this section shall not be used to replace existing funds. Funds granted under this section may be used to supplement existing funds. An organization may use funds to support existing programs or to establish new programs.

(c) The council, by policy, shall give preference in granting funds to those organizations that coordinate services with those programs established under ORS 458.625.

(4) The department may expend for administration of the account no more than five percent of the account appropriation.

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.