House Bill 2943

Sponsored by Representative GARRETT; Representatives BRUUN, CANNON, DEMBROW, D EDWARDS, HARKER, KAHL, READ, J SMITH, THOMPSON, Senator BONAMICI

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.

Creates Legislative Research Office. Specifies duties of office.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

- 2 Relating to the Legislative Research Office; and appropriating money.
- Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
 - <u>SECTION 1.</u> As used in sections 1 to 5 of this 2009 Act, "appointing authorities" means the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives and the Minority Leader of the Senate.
 - SECTION 2. A Legislative Research Office is created within the legislative branch. The appointing authorities shall appoint a director of the office. The director serves at the pleasure of the appointing authorities. The appointing authorities shall fix the salary of the director.
 - <u>SECTION 3.</u> (1) The Director of the Legislative Research Office may employ and fix the compensation of such professional assistants and clerical and other employees as the director finds necessary for the effective conduct of the work of the Legislative Research Office.
 - (2) Subject to the limitations otherwise provided by law for expenses of state officers, the director and employees of the Legislative Research Office shall be reimbursed for all actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing their duties.
 - <u>SECTION 4.</u> (1) Pursuant to the policies and directions of the appointing authorities, the Legislative Research Office shall:
 - (a) Upon written request of a member of the Legislative Assembly or any committee of the Legislative Assembly, prepare or assist in the preparation of studies and reports and provide information and research assistance on proposed legislation and other matters of interest to the Legislative Assembly.
 - (b) Ascertain facts and provide analysis of proposed legislation.
 - (c) Make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly concerning legislation proposed by state agencies.
 - (d) Seek the advice and assistance of political subdivisions of this state, governmental agencies and any interested persons, associations or organizations in the performance of the duties of the office.
 - (e) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law or by resolution of the Legislative Assembly.
 - (2) The Director of the Legislative Research Office may adopt rules relating to the sub-

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mission, processing and prioritization of requests. Rules adopted under this subsection shall be in conformance with any applicable rule of the House of Representatives or the Senate, and shall be reviewed and approved by the appointing authorities before adoption. A request made by a resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly shall be given priority over other requests received or initiated by the office.

- (3) Pursuant to the policies and directions of the appointing authority, the Director of the Legislative Research Office may enter into contracts to carry out the functions of the Legislative Research Office.
- SECTION 5. (1) The Legislative Research Office may accept, receive, receipt for, disburse and expend federal moneys and other moneys, public or private, for the accomplishment of the purposes of sections 1 to 5 of this 2009 Act.
- (2) All federal moneys accepted under this section shall be accepted and transferred or expended by the Legislative Research Office upon such terms and conditions as are prescribed by the United States.
- (3) All other moneys accepted under this section shall be accepted and transferred or expended by the Legislative Research Office upon such terms and conditions as are prescribed by law.
- (4) All moneys received by the Legislative Research Office pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the State Treasury and, unless otherwise prescribed by the authority from which such moneys were received, shall be kept in separate funds designated according to the purposes for which the moneys were made available, and held by the state in trust for such purposes. All such moneys are continuously appropriated to the Legislative Research Office for the purposes for which the moneys were made available, to be disbursed or expended in accordance with the terms and conditions upon which the moneys were made available.