

House Bill 2995

Sponsored by Representative CLEM

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 Oregon Food Policy Council. Specifies duties.
Sunsets council January 2, 2014.
Appropriates moneys to State Department of Agriculture to carry out department activities relating to food purchases, policies and education.
Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2009.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Oregon Food Policy Council; appropriating money; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Food Policy Council is established in the State Department**
5 **of Agriculture. The council shall consist of the following:**

6 (a) **The Director of the Housing and Community Services Department, or a designee of**
7 **the director.**

8 (b) **The Director of Agriculture, or a designee of the director.**

9 (c) **The Director of the Oregon State University Extension Service, or a designee of the**
10 **director.**

11 (d) **The Director of Human Services, or a designee of the director with expertise in public**
12 **health issues.**

13 (e) **The Superintendent of Public Instruction, or a designee of the superintendent.**

14 (f) **The Director of the Economic and Community Development Department, or a**
15 **designee of the director.**

16 (g) **Fifteen persons appointed by the Governor, consisting of:**

17 (A) **One person representing the office of the Governor with expertise in rural policy.**

18 (B) **One person who is a member of the State Board of Agriculture or, if no member**
19 **accepts appointment, who is a representative of the board.**

20 (C) **One person representing an organization that markets sustainable agricultural pro-**
21 **ducts.**

22 (D) **One person actively engaged in farming in western Oregon.**

23 (E) **One person actively engaged in farming or ranching in eastern Oregon.**

24 (F) **One person actively involved in growing or producing goods sold at farmers' markets,**
25 **farm stands or food cooperatives, in community-supported agriculture or in farm direct**
26 **marketing.**

27 (G) **One person representing food processors.**

28 (H) **One person representing food retailers.**

29 (I) **One person representing restaurants and food services.**

30 (J) **One person representing anti-hunger organizations.**

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 (K) One person representing health care providers.

2 (L) One person representing the religious community.

3 (M) One person who is a professional nutritionist employed by an institution of higher
4 learning.

5 (N) One person who is a present or past recipient of food stamps.

6 (O) One person who is a member of a local food policy council.

7 (2) The Governor shall appoint council members described in subsection (1)(g) of this
8 section to terms of three years. However, an appointed member serves at the pleasure of
9 the Governor. If there is a vacancy of a member appointed by the Governor for any cause,
10 the Governor shall make an appointment to become immediately effective for the unexpired
11 term.

12 (3) The Governor shall select one member of the council to serve as chairperson and
13 another to serve as vice chairperson, for the terms and with the duties and powers to per-
14 form the functions of those offices as the Governor determines necessary to carry out the
15 purposes of section 3 of this 2009 Act.

16 (4) A majority of the members of the council constitutes a quorum for the transaction
17 of business.

18 (5) The council shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson.

19 (6) The Housing and Community Services Department and the State Department of Ag-
20 riculture shall provide staff support for the council.

21 (7) Notwithstanding ORS 561.374, council members are not entitled to compensation or
22 reimbursement of expenses under ORS 292.495.

23 (8) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member of the House
24 of Representatives to serve as an advisor to the council. The advisor appointed under this
25 subsection may not participate in any vote of the council or perform any duty of the council.

26 (9) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member of the Senate to serve as an
27 advisor to the council. The advisor appointed under this subsection may not participate in
28 any vote of the council or perform any duty of the council.

29 **SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding the term of office specified in section 1 (2) of this 2009 Act,
30 of the members first appointed to the Oregon Food Policy Council under section 1 (1)(g) of
31 this 2009 Act:

32 (1) Five shall be appointed to serve a term of one year.

33 (2) Five shall be appointed to serve a term of two years.

34 (3) Five shall be appointed to serve a term of three years.

35 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Oregon Food Policy Council shall review state and local food system
36 issues for the purpose of recommending improvements related to the linkage between food
37 producers, consumers and policy makers. The council shall bring together public and private
38 stakeholders to increase food security, reduce hunger, improve access to food and to a diet
39 for all Oregonians that complies with the federal Dietary Guidelines for Americans. As used
40 in this section, "food security" means having sufficient money or other resources for food
41 to be certain of having, or being able to acquire in socially acceptable ways, enough accept-
42 able food at all times to meet basic needs. The council shall focus on:

43 (a) Working with the State Department of Agriculture to encourage the streamlining of
44 regional food purchasing and delivery policies and practices that authorize and encourage
45 public institutions within the state to give preference to regionally produced foods.

1 (b) Supporting ongoing efforts of the State Department of Agriculture and the Oregon
2 State University Extension Service to:

3 (A) Foster and develop farmers' markets, farming, local agricultural marketing oppor-
4 tunities and community-supported agriculture;

5 (B) Foster job and business development in Oregon's agriculture and food processing in-
6 dustries as economic development; and

7 (C) Enhance the viability of community and home gardens.

8 (c) Supporting education, outreach efforts and programs that assist local communities
9 and schools in understanding food production, food preparation and how to maximize the
10 consumption of foods that comply with the federal Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

11 (d) Providing assistance to local food policy councils in all areas of the state. Assistance
12 may include, but need not be limited to, providing a forum for coordination and communi-
13 cation between the local councils, facilitating dialogue and providing expertise on issues re-
14 lated to the goals of the council.

15 (2) The council may develop recommendations to improve food security and systems and
16 create economic and health benefits, including but not limited to strategies for:

17 (a) Creating urban and rural partnerships;

18 (b) Improving access to foods that comply with the federal Dietary Guidelines for Amer-
19 icans;

20 (c) Reducing hunger and food insecurity for low-income Oregonians;

21 (d) Increasing purchases of Oregon foods;

22 (e) Enhancing the vitality of the agricultural industry; and

23 (f) Expanding food-related businesses and jobs.

24 (3) The council shall act as a forum for input, advice, education, interaction and infor-
25 mation sharing between persons involved in the various aspects of food security and systems.

26 (4) The council shall work in collaboration and consultation with other state entities
27 dealing with hunger or homelessness issues, including but not limited to the Housing and
28 Community Services Department through the Interagency Council on Hunger and
29 Homelessness established under ORS 458.525, the State Department of Agriculture and the
30 Hunger Relief Task Force.

31 (5) The Oregon Food Policy Council may not make any recommendations regarding agri-
32 cultural production or food processing practices.

33 (6) The council shall report annually on the work of the council to an appropriate com-
34 mittee of the Legislative Assembly.

35 SECTION 4. Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this 2009 Act are repealed January 2, 2014.

36 SECTION 5. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
37 ated to the State Department of Agriculture, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, out
38 of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____, which may be expended for the purpose of fa-
39 cilitating department activities of the type described in section 3 (1) of this 2009 Act.

40 SECTION 6. This 2009 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
41 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2009 Act takes effect
42 July 1, 2009.