A-Engrossed Senate Bill 952

Ordered by the Senate April 30 Including Senate Amendments dated April 30

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

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.

Provides that purchaser is entitled to possession of property sold at trustee's sale subject to interests of person in possession of property under interest created voluntarily by grantor or successor to grantor. [Provides exceptions and requirements for notice of purchaser's intent to remove person in possession.]

Requires purchaser of foreclosed property to give additional notice to tenants living on property when purchaser intends to take possession of property. Creates different notice procedures for different types of tenancy. Modifies information to be included in notice. Creates other procedures related to taking possession of property.

Creates other procedures related to taking possession of property.

Allows tenant who receives actual notice of foreclosure to apply security deposit or prepaid rent to pay rent obligation.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to rights of tenants in foreclosed property; creating new provisions; amending ORS 86.745, 86.755 and 223.523; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 86.755 is amended to read:

86.755. (1) The sale [shall] must be held on the date and at the time and place designated in the notice of sale[.], which must be at a designated time after 9 a.m. and before 4 p.m., based on the standard of time set forth in ORS 187.110 and at a designated place in the county or one of the counties where the property is situated. The trustee may sell the property in one parcel or in separate parcels and shall sell the parcel or parcels at auction to the highest bidder for cash. Any person, including the beneficiary under the trust deed, but excluding the trustee, may bid at the trustee's sale. The attorney for the trustee, or [any] an agent designated by the trustee or the attorney, may conduct the sale and act in the sale as the trustee's auctioneer [of the trustee].

- (2) The trustee or the attorney for the trustee, or [any] an agent designated by the trustee or the attorney conducting the sale, may postpone the sale for one or more periods totaling not more than 180 days from the original sale date, giving notice of each adjournment by public proclamation made at the time and place set for sale. The [proclamation may be made by the] trustee, the attorney[,] or [any] the agent designated by the trustee or the attorney may make the proclamation.
- (3) The purchaser shall pay at the time of sale the price bid, and, within 10 days following payment, the trustee shall execute and deliver the trustee's deed to the purchaser.
- (4) The trustee's deed shall convey to the purchaser the interest in the property [which] that the grantor had, or had the power to convey, at the time the grantor executed [of the execution

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.

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by the grantor of the trust deed, together with any interest the grantor or the grantor's successors in interest acquire after the execution of the trust deed.

(5)(a) The purchaser at the trustee's sale [shall be] is entitled to possession of the property on the 10th day [following] after the sale[, and any persons remaining]. A person that remains in possession after [that] the 10th day under any interest, except [one] an interest prior to the trust deed or an interest the grantor or a successor of the grantor created voluntarily [by the grantor or a successor of the grantor, shall be deemed to be tenants] is a tenant at sufferance. The purchaser may obtain possession of the property from a tenant at sufferance by following the procedures set forth in ORS 105.105 to 105.168 or other applicable judicial procedure. [All persons not holding under an interest prior to the trust deed may be removed from possession by following the procedures set out in ORS 105.105 to 105.168 or other applicable judicial procedure, provided that a person holding under an interest created voluntarily by the grantor or a successor of the grantor must first receive 30 days' written notice of the intent to remove that person served no earlier than 30 days before the date first set for the sale. Notices under this subsection shall be served by first class mail. "First class mail" for purposes of this section does not include certified or registered mail, or any other form of mail which may delay or hinder actual delivery of mail to the addressee.]

- (b) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection, at any time after the trustee's sale the purchaser may follow the procedures set forth in ORS 105.105 to 105.168 or other applicable judicial procedure to obtain possession of the property from a person that holds possession under an interest that the grantor or a successor of the grantor created voluntarily if, not earlier than 30 days before the date first set for the sale, the person was served with not less than 30 days' written notice of the requirement to surrender or deliver possession of the property.
- (c) If the property purchased at the trustee's sale is a dwelling unit, as defined in ORS 90.100 (9), that the person holds under a tenancy that the grantor or a successor of the grantor created voluntarily and in good faith, the purchaser may follow the procedures set forth in ORS 105.105 to 105.168 or other applicable judicial procedure to obtain possession if after the sale the purchaser terminates the tenancy in a written notice given to the person:
- (A) At least 60 days before the termination date specified in the notice, if the tenancy is a fixed term tenancy, as defined in ORS 90.100, and at least 30 days before the date first set for the trustee's sale the person provided the trustee with a copy of the rental agreement that established the fixed term tenancy. The provisions of this subparagraph do not apply to a purchaser that does not intend to terminate a fixed term tenancy before the date on which the fixed term tenancy ends.
 - (B) At least 30 days before the termination date specified in the notice, if:
- (i) The tenancy is a month-to-month tenancy or week-to-week tenancy, as those terms are defined in ORS 90.100, and at least 30 days before the date first set for the trustee's sale the person provided the trustee with a copy of the rental agreement that established the tenancy or with other written evidence of the existence of a rental agreement, if the person cannot provide the rental agreement; or
- (ii) The tenancy is a fixed term tenancy for which the person has provided notice to the trustee as provided in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and the purchaser intends to occupy the property that is subject to the fixed term tenancy as the purchaser's primary residence.
 - (d) A purchaser may not commence a proceeding under ORS 105.105 to 105.168 that is

authorized under this subsection before the later of:

- (A) The 10th day after the trustee's sale;
- (B) The date specified in a written notice of the requirement to surrender or deliver possession of the property if the notice is required by and is given to the person in accordance with paragraph (b) of this subsection;
- (C) The date specified in a written notice of the purchaser's intent to terminate a tenancy if the notice is required by and is given to the person in accordance with paragraph (c) of this subsection; or
 - (D) The date on which the term of a fixed term tenancy ends.
- (6) A purchaser shall serve a notice under subsection (5) of this section by first class mail and not by certified or registered mail or a form of mail that may delay or hinder actual delivery of mail to the addressee. The notice is effective three days after the notice is mailed.
- (7)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (5)(c) of this section, the purchaser is not a landlord subject to the provisions of ORS chapter 90 unless the purchaser:
- (A) Accepts rent from the person who possesses the property under a tenancy described in subsection (5)(c) of this section;
- (B) Enters into a new rental agreement with the person who possesses the property under a tenancy described in subsection (5)(c) of this section; or
- (C) Fails to terminate the tenancy as provided in subsection (5)(c) of this section within 30 days after the date of the sale.
- (b) The purchaser is not liable to the person who possesses the property under a tenancy described in subsection (5)(c) of this section for:
- (A) Damage to the property or diminution in rental value that occurred before the date of the trustee's sale; or
 - (B) Returning a security deposit.
- [(6)] (8) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, except when a beneficiary has participated in obtaining a stay, foreclosure proceedings that are stayed by order of the court, by proceedings in bankruptcy or for any other lawful reason shall, after release from the stay, continue as if uninterrupted, if within 30 days after release the trustee gives amended notice of sale by registered or certified mail to the last-known address of [those] the persons listed in ORS 86.740 and 86.750 (1) and to the address provided by each person who was present at the time and place set for the sale [which] that was stayed. The amended notice of sale [shall] must:
 - (a) Be given at least 20 days prior to the amended date of sale;
- (b) Set an amended date of sale [which] **that** may be the same as the original sale date, or date to which the sale was postponed, provided the requirements of ORS 86.740, 86.750 and this subsection are satisfied;
 - (c) Specify the time and place for sale;
 - (d) Conform to the requirements of ORS 86.745; and
 - (e) State that the original sale proceedings were stayed and the date the stay terminated.
- [(7)] (9) If the publication of the notice of sale was not completed prior to the date the foreclosure proceedings were stayed by order of the court, by proceedings in bankruptcy or for any other lawful reason, after release from the stay, in addition to complying with the provisions of subsection [(6)] (8) of this section, the trustee shall complete the publication by publishing an amended notice of sale [which] that states that the notice has been amended following release from the stay, and [which] that contains the amended date of sale. The amended notice [shall] must be published in a

newspaper of general circulation in each of the counties in which the property is situated once a week for four successive weeks, except that the required number of publications shall be reduced by the number of publications that were completed prior to the effective date of the stay. The last publication [shall] **must** be made more than 20 days prior to the date the trustee conducts the sale.

SECTION 2. ORS 86.745 is amended to read:

86.745. The notice of sale shall [set forth]:

- (1) **List** the names of the grantor, trustee and beneficiary in the trust deed, and the mailing address of the trustee.
 - (2) [A description of] **Describe** the property [covered by] the trust deed **covers**.
- (3) **Identify** the book and page of the mortgage records [where] **that record** the trust deed [is recorded].
 - (4) State the default for which the foreclosure is made.
 - (5) State the sum owing on the obligation [secured by] that the trust deed secures.
 - (6) State that [the election to sell] the property will be sold to satisfy the obligation.
- (7) **Set forth** the date, time and place of the sale[, which shall be held at a designated time after 9 a.m. and before 4 p.m. based on the standard of time established by ORS 187.110 and at a designated place in the county or one of the counties where the property is situated].
- (8) **State that** the right **exists** under ORS 86.753 to have the proceeding dismissed and the trust deed reinstated by [payment of] **paying** the entire amount then due, together with costs, trustee's **fees** and [attorney's] **attorney** fees, and by curing any other default complained of in the notice of default, at any time [prior to] **that is not later than** five days before the date last set for the sale.
- (9) Include a notice addressed clearly to any person who occupies the property and who is or might be a tenant. The notice required under this subsection must:
- (a) Include contact information for the Oregon State Bar and a person or organization that provides legal help to individuals at no charge to the individual;
 - (b) Be set apart from other text in the notice of sale; and
 - (c) Be in substantially the following form:

NOTICE TO TENANTS:

If you are a tenant of this property, foreclosure could affect your rental agreement. A purchaser who buys this property at a foreclosure sale has the right to require you to move out after giving you notice of the requirement.

If you do not have a fixed-term lease, the purchaser may require you to move out after giving you a 30-day notice on or after the date of the sale.

If you have a fixed-term lease, you may be entitled to receive after the date of the sale a 60-day notice of the purchaser's requirement that you move out.

To be entitled to either a 30-day or 60-day notice, you must give the trustee of the property written evidence of your rental agreement at least 30 days before the date first set for the sale. If you have a fixed-term lease, you must give the trustee a copy of the rental agreement. If you do not have a fixed-term lease and cannot provide a copy of the rental agreement, you may give the trustee other written evidence of the existence of the rental agreement. The date that is 30 days before the date of the sale is _______. The name of the trustee and the trustee's mailing address are listed on this notice.

You have the right to apply your security deposit and any rent you prepaid toward your

current obligation under your rental agreement. If you want to do so, you must notify your landlord in writing and in advance that you intend to do so.

If you believe you need legal assistance with this matter, you may contact the Oregon State Bar and ask for the lawyer referral service. Contact information for the Oregon State Bar is included with this notice. If you have a low income and meet federal poverty guidelines, you may be eligible for free legal assistance. Contact information for where you can obtain free legal assistance is included with this notice.

SECTION 3. Section 4 of this 2009 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 90.

SECTION 4. A tenant who receives actual notice that the property that is the subject of the tenant's rental agreement with a landlord is in foreclosure may apply the tenant's security deposit or prepaid rent to the tenant's obligation to the landlord. The tenant must notify the landlord in writing that the tenant intends to do so.

SECTION 5. ORS 223.523 is amended to read:

223.523. (1) Before a sale of real property under ORS 223.505 to 223.590 takes place, the treasurer shall have notice of the sale printed once a week for four successive weeks in a daily or weekly newspaper, as defined in ORS 193.010, generally circulated in the county in which the sale will be held. The notice of sale shall set forth the name and address of the treasurer conducting the sale, a particular description of the real property to be sold, including a street address, if any, the name of the owner of the property, the amount unpaid on the lien or final assessment and the date, time and place of sale, which shall be held in accordance with ORS [86.745 (7)] 86.755.

(2) The treasurer shall send a copy of the first of the four published notices by registered or certified mail to both the owner of the real property to be sold at the last-known post-office address of the owner or place of residence and to the occupant, if any, of the real property to be sold. The treasurer shall also send a notice containing the same information required in a published notice under subsection (1) of this section by registered or certified mail at least 60 days prior to the sale to any person requesting notice under ORS 86.785 and to any person having a lien or other interest in the real property to be sold if the lien or interest appears of record. The treasurer shall retain and file the return receipt for the registered or certified mail.

SECTION 6. Section 4 of this 2009 Act and the amendments to ORS 86.745 and 86.755 by sections 1 and 2 of this 2009 Act apply to notices given under ORS 86.740 on or after the effective date of this 2009 Act and to proceedings or actions under ORS 105.105 to 105.168 that begin on or after the effective date of this 2009 Act.

<u>SECTION 7.</u> This 2009 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2009 Act takes effect on its passage.