

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 506

Ordered by the Senate April 15
Including Senate Amendments dated April 15

Sponsored by Senator BOQUIST (at the request of Robin Zimmerman) (Presession filed.)

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.

Allows eligible employees to take family leave to deal with death of family member. Limits period of leave to two weeks [*or to six weeks with medical verification*]. Requires that leave be counted toward total period of authorized family leave.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to family leave; amending ORS 659A.156, 659A.159, 659A.162, 659A.165, 659A.177 and
3 659A.186.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 659A.159 is amended to read:

6 659A.159. (1) Family leave under ORS 659A.150 to 659A.186 may be taken by an eligible em-
7 ployee for any of the following purposes:

8 (a) To care for an infant or newly adopted child under 18 years of age, or for a newly placed
9 foster child under 18 years of age, or for an adopted or foster child older than 18 years of age if the
10 child is incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability.

11 (b) To care for a family member with a serious health condition.

12 (c) To recover from or seek treatment for a serious health condition of the employee that ren-
13 ders the employee unable to perform at least one of the essential functions of the employee's regular
14 position.

15 (d) To care for a child of the employee who is suffering from an illness, injury or condition that
16 is not a serious health condition but that requires home care.

17 (e) **To deal with the death of a family member by:**

18 **(A) Attending the funeral or alternative to a funeral of the family member;**

19 **(B) Making arrangements necessitated by the death of the family member; or**

20 **(C) Grieving the death of the family member.**

21 (2) Leave under subsection (1)(a) of this section must be completed within 12 months after birth
22 or placement of the child, and an eligible employee is not entitled to any period of family leave
23 under subsection (1)(a) of this section after the expiration of 12 months after birth or placement of
24 the child.

25 **(3) Leave under subsection (1)(e) of this section must be completed within two months**
26 **after the death of a family member or the discovery of the death of a family member. An**
27 **eligible employee is not entitled to any period of family leave under subsection (1)(e) of this**
28 **section after the expiration of 12 months after the death of a family member or the discovery**

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 **of the death of a family member.**

2 **SECTION 2.** ORS 659A.156 is amended to read:

3 659A.156. (1) All employees of a covered employer are eligible to take leave for one of the pur-
4 poses specified in ORS 659A.159 (1)(b) to [(d)] (e) except:

5 (a) An employee who was employed by the covered employer for fewer than 180 days imme-
6 diately before the date on which the family leave would commence.

7 (b) An employee who worked an average of fewer than 25 hours per week for the covered em-
8 ployer during the 180 days immediately preceding the date on which the family leave would com-
9 mence.

10 (2) All employees of a covered employer are eligible to take leave for the purpose specified in
11 ORS 659A.159 (1)(a) except an employee who was employed by the covered employer for fewer than
12 180 days immediately before the date on which the family leave would commence.

13 **SECTION 3.** ORS 659A.162 is amended to read:

14 659A.162. (1) Except as specifically provided by ORS 659A.150 to 659A.186, an eligible employee
15 is entitled to up to a **total of 12 weeks** of family leave within any one-year period.

16 **(2)(a) Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this subsection, an eligible employee is en-**
17 **titled to up to two weeks of leave for the purposes described in ORS 659A.159 (1)(e).**

18 **(b) An eligible employee is entitled to the period of leave described in paragraph (a) of**
19 **this subsection upon the death of each family member of the employee within any one-year**
20 **period, except that leave taken as provided by this subsection may not exceed the total pe-**
21 **riod of family leave authorized by subsection (1) of this section.**

22 **(c) A covered employer may not require an eligible employee to take multiple periods of**
23 **leave described in ORS 659A.159 (1)(e) concurrently if more than one family member of the**
24 **employee dies during the one-year period.**

25 **(d) All leave taken for the purposes described in ORS 659A.159 (1)(e) shall be counted**
26 **toward the total period of family leave authorized by subsection (1) of this section.**

27 [(2)(a)] **(3)(a)** In addition to the 12 weeks of **family** leave authorized by subsection (1) of this
28 section, [an eligible] a female **eligible** employee may take a total of 12 weeks of leave within any
29 one-year period for an illness, injury or condition related to pregnancy or childbirth that disables
30 the eligible employee from performing any available job duties offered by the **covered** employer.

31 (b) An eligible employee who takes 12 weeks of family leave within a one-year period for the
32 purpose specified in ORS 659A.159 (1)(a) may take up to an additional 12 weeks of leave within the
33 one-year period for the purpose specified in ORS 659A.159 (1)(d).

34 [(3)] **(4)** When two **or more** family members work for the same covered employer, the eligible
35 employees may not take concurrent family leave unless:

36 (a) One employee needs to care for [the other] **another** employee who **is a family member and**
37 **who** is suffering from a serious health condition; [or]

38 (b) One employee needs to care for a child who has a serious health condition while [the other]
39 **another** employee **who is a family member** is also suffering **from** a serious health condition[.];
40 **or**

41 **(c) The employees are taking leave described in ORS 659A.159 (1)(e).**

42 [(4)] **(5)** An eligible employee may take family leave for the [purposes] **purpose** specified in ORS
43 659A.159 (1)(a) in two or more nonconsecutive periods of leave only with the approval of the em-
44 ployer.

45 [(5)] **(6)** Leave need not be provided to an eligible employee by a covered employer for the pur-

1 pose specified in ORS 659A.159 (1)(d) if another family member is available to care for the child.

2 [(6)] (7) A covered employer may not reduce the amount of family leave available to an eligible
3 employee under this section by any period the employee is unable to work because of a disabling
4 compensable injury.

5 [(7)] (8) The Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries shall adopt rules governing
6 when family leave for a serious health condition of an eligible employee or a family member of the
7 eligible employee may be taken intermittently or by working a reduced workweek. Rules adopted
8 by the commissioner under this subsection shall allow taking of family leave on an intermittent basis
9 or by use of a reduced workweek to the extent permitted by federal law and to the extent that
10 taking family leave on an intermittent basis or by use of a reduced workweek [*will*] **does** not result
11 in the loss of an eligible employee's exempt status under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

12 **SECTION 4.** ORS 659A.165 is amended to read:

13 659A.165. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, a covered employer may re-
14 quire an eligible employee to give the employer written notice at least 30 days before commencing
15 family leave. The employer may require the employee to include an explanation of the need for the
16 leave in the notice.

17 (2) An eligible employee may commence taking family leave without prior notice under the fol-
18 lowing circumstances:

19 (a) An unexpected serious health condition of an employee or family member of an employee;

20 (b) An unexpected illness, injury or condition of a child of the employee that requires home care;
21 [*or*]

22 (c) A premature birth, unexpected adoption or unexpected foster placement[.]; **or**

23 **(d) The death of a family member.**

24 (3) If an employee commences leave without prior notice under subsection (2) of this section, the
25 employee must give oral notice to the employer within 24 hours of the commencement of the
26 leave[,] and must provide the written notice required by subsection (1) of this section within three
27 days after the employee returns to work. The oral notice required by this subsection may be given
28 by any other person on behalf of the employee taking the leave.

29 (4) **Except as provided in this subsection,** if the employee fails to give notice as required by
30 subsections (1) and (3) of this section, the employer may reduce the **total** period of family leave
31 [*required*] **authorized** by ORS 659A.162 by three weeks, and the employee may be subject to disci-
32 plinary action under a uniformly applied policy or practice of the employer. **A reduction in the**
33 **total period of family leave under this subsection may not limit leave described in ORS**
34 **659A.159 (1)(e).**

35 **SECTION 5.** ORS 659A.177 is amended to read:

36 659A.177. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of ORS 659A.150 to 659A.186, if a teacher
37 requests leave for one of the purposes specified in ORS 659A.159 (1)(b) or (c), the need for the leave
38 is foreseeable, and the employee will be on leave for more than 20 percent of the total number of
39 working days in the period during which the leave would extend, the employer of the teacher may
40 require that the employee elect one of the two following options:

41 (a) The employee may elect to take leave for a period or periods of a particular duration, not
42 to exceed the duration of the anticipated medical treatment; or

43 (b) The employee may elect to transfer temporarily to an available alternative position that
44 better accommodates recurring periods of leave than the regular position of the employee. The
45 teacher must be qualified for the alternative position, and the position must have pay and benefits

1 that are equivalent to the pay and benefits of the employee's regular position.

2 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of ORS 659A.150 to 659A.186, if a teacher commences
3 a period of family leave for the purpose specified in ORS 659A.159 (1)(c) more than five weeks before
4 the end of an academic term, the employer of the teacher may require that the employee continue
5 on family leave until the end of the term if:

6 (a) The leave is of at least three weeks' duration; and

7 (b) The employee's return to employment would occur during the three-week period before the
8 end of the term.

9 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of ORS 659A.150 to 659A.186, if a teacher commences
10 a period of family leave for one of the purposes specified in ORS 659A.159 (1)(a), [or] (b) **or (e)**
11 during the five weeks before the end of an academic term, the employer of the teacher may require
12 that the employee continue on family leave until the end of the term if:

13 (a) The leave is of at least two weeks' duration; and

14 (b) The employee's return to employment would occur during the two-week period before the end
15 of the term.

16 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of ORS 659A.150 to 659A.186, if a teacher commences
17 a period of family leave for one of the purposes specified in ORS 659A.159 (1)(a), [or] (b) **or (e)**
18 during the three-week period before the end of the term, and the duration of the leave is greater
19 than five working days, the employer of the teacher may require that the employee continue on
20 family leave until the end of the term.

21 (5) The provisions of this section apply only to an employee who is employed principally in an
22 instructional capacity by a public kindergarten, elementary school, secondary school or education
23 service district.

24 **SECTION 6.** ORS 659A.186 is amended to read:

25 659A.186. (1) ORS 659A.150 to 659A.186 do not limit any right of an employee to [*family medical*
26 *leave*] **any leave that is similar to the leave described in ORS 659A.159 (1) and** to which the
27 employee may be entitled under any agreement between the employer and the employee, collective
28 bargaining agreement or employer policy.

29 (2) ORS 659A.150 to 659A.186 shall be construed to the extent possible in a manner that is
30 consistent with any similar provisions of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. Family
31 leave taken under ORS 659A.150 to 659A.186 must be taken concurrently with any leave taken under
32 the federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

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