

Senate Bill 768

Sponsored by Senator STARR (at the request of Oregon League of Minority Voters)

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**.

Establishes Oregon Civil Rights Network. Instructs Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office to provide administrative assistance to network. Instructs network to develop certain guidelines and to share information and expertise related to discrimination and systemic inequalities in Oregon. Requires network to develop coordinated enforcement process for investigation of complaints.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to institutional discrimination in state government; creating new provisions; and amending
3 ORS 185.005, 185.010 and 185.025.

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

5 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2013 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 185.005 to**
6 **185.025.**

7 **SECTION 2. (1) There is established the Oregon Civil Rights Network consisting of:**

8 **(a) The Department of Justice;**

9 **(b) The Employment Department;**

10 **(c) The Department of Consumer and Business Services;**

11 **(d) The Bureau of Labor and Industries;**

12 **(e) The Department of Human Services;**

13 **(f) The Commission on Black Affairs;**

14 **(g) The Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs;**

15 **(h) The Commission on Hispanic Affairs;**

16 **(i) The Commission for Women;**

17 **(j) The Oregon Disabilities Commission;**

18 **(k) The Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office; and**

19 **(L) Other state agencies that enter into the intergovernmental agreement described in**
20 **subsection (3) of this section.**

21 **(2) The Oregon Civil Rights Network shall:**

22 **(a) Develop guidelines for identifying, avoiding and eliminating discriminatory practices**
23 **in state government;**

24 **(b) Share expertise and information related to addressing systemic inequalities in Oregon;**

25 **(c) Conduct investigations into allegations of discrimination or systemic inequalities**
26 **presented to the network;**

27 **(d) Report the results of investigations conducted by the network and make recommen-**
28 **dations to the appropriate agencies regarding instances of discrimination or systemic ine-**
29 **quality revealed as a result of investigations conducted by the network;**

30 **(e) Identify opportunities for and obstacles to eliminating compliance with the laws re-**

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 **lating to discrimination in Oregon;**

2 **(f) Create a coordinated enforcement process for the laws relating to discrimination and**
 3 **the elimination of inequalities that is efficient, fair and effective for the public and the reg-**
 4 **ulatory agencies charged with enforcing those laws; and**

5 **(g) Take such other action as the member agencies deem appropriate to improve com-**
 6 **pliance with laws relating to discrimination in Oregon.**

7 **(3) The agencies identified in subsection (1)(a) to (k) of this section shall enter into an**
 8 **intergovernmental agreement for the purpose of coordinating the efforts of the agencies**
 9 **under this section. Any other agency of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, that**
 10 **has an interest in compliance with laws relating to discrimination may become a member**
 11 **of the Oregon Civil Rights Network by entering into the agreement on such terms as may**
 12 **be prescribed by the agencies identified in subsection (1)(a) to (k) of this section.**

13 **(4) Any agency that is a member of the Oregon Civil Rights Network may enter into an**
 14 **agreement with another member agency to provide information to the other agency. Infor-**
 15 **mation provided to an agency under this subsection may be used by the agency only for the**
 16 **purpose of enforcing compliance with laws that are administered by the agency.**

17 **SECTION 3.** ORS 185.005 is amended to read:

18 185.005. The Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office is established to provide administrative sup-
 19 port to:

- 20 (1) The Commission on Hispanic Affairs;
- 21 (2) The Commission on Black Affairs;
- 22 (3) The Commission for Women; *[and]*
- 23 (4) The Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs; **and**
- 24 **(5) The Oregon Civil Rights Network.**

25 **SECTION 4.** ORS 185.010 is amended to read:

26 185.010. (1) The Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office shall be staffed by an administrator, who
 27 is responsible for the performance of the duties, functions and powers of the office.

28 (2) A board consisting of the chairpersons of the commissions served by the office and the
 29 Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries shall establish the qualifications for and ap-
 30 point the Administrator of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office.

31 (3) The Administrator of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office shall receive a salary as
 32 prescribed by law, or as prescribed by the board described in subsection (2) of this section if a salary
 33 is not prescribed by law.

34 (4) The Administrator of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office is in the unclassified service.

35 (5) The Administrator of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office shall provide **the Oregon**
 36 **Civil Rights Network and** each commission served by the office with the administrative support
 37 needed by the **network and each** commission to carry out the statutory duties of the **network or**
 38 **commission.** Subject to any applicable provisions of the State Personnel Relations Law, the admin-
 39 istrator shall employ all persons necessary for the operation of the office, prescribe the duties of
 40 those employees and establish the compensation payable to those employees.

41 **SECTION 5.** ORS 185.025 is amended to read:

42 185.025. (1) The Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office Account is established in the General
 43 Fund of the State Treasury. The account consists of the moneys received by the Oregon Advocacy
 44 Commissions Office, *[or by]* **the Oregon Civil Rights Network or** the commissions served by the
 45 office, other than moneys appropriated to the office by the Legislative Assembly. All moneys in the

1 account are appropriated continuously to the office, and may be used by the office only for the
2 **network or** commission to which the contribution was made and for the purposes for which the
3 contributions were made.

4 (2) The Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office, and the **network and the** commissions served
5 by the office, may accept contributions of funds and assistance from the United States, agencies of
6 the United States or any other source, public or private, and agree to conditions on receiving the
7 funds or assistance. Any funds received under this section must be deposited in the Oregon Advo-
8 cacy Commissions Office Account.

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