

A-Engrossed
House Bill 4015

Ordered by the House February 14
Including House Amendments dated February 14

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Rural Communities)

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.

Directs certain state agencies to use regional priorities for community and economic development in consideration of project funding decisions made in connection with grant, loan or incentive programs. Specifies other considerations state agencies are to use in making decisions about which projects to undertake.

Requires state agencies to [*consider certain factors and prioritize funding of projects that affect regional community and economic development and to*] collaborate with Regional Solutions Program to integrate state investments, services and resources.

Directs natural resource agencies to collaborate to develop and deliver plan to Governor describing how natural resource agencies shall participate in regional solutions teams.

Directs regional solutions coordinators to convene affected stakeholders with assistance of Oregon Consensus Program in Mark O. Hatfield School of Government to seek to resolve disputed issues with respect to regional implementation project proposals that involve significant environmental issues.

Requires regional solutions advisory committees to consider whether regional implementation project proposals seek to address state's economically, socially and environmentally sustainable goals and objectives.

Directs Governor and Director of Oregon Department of Administrative Services to develop process to provide public notice and opportunity for public comment, and for consideration of public comments, at regional solutions advisory committee meetings where establishment of regional priorities and regional implementation project proposals are being considered.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to state agency alignment with regional community and economic development priorities.

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

4 **SECTION 1. As used in sections 1 to 3 of this 2014 Act:**

5 (1) "Community and economic development" means development that:

6 (a) Relates to, supports and promotes the policies and objectives of the Regional Sol-
7 utions Program established under section 3 of this 2014 Act;

8 (b) Promotes, expands or prevents the decline of local, regional and statewide industries
9 and businesses located or to be located in Oregon;

10 (c) Creates jobs or prevents the loss of jobs in Oregon; and

11 (d) Improves the economy in Oregon.

12 (2) "Grant, loan or incentive program" means any program or other type of undertaking
13 that a state agency has been authorized by the Legislative Assembly to establish, implement
14 and fund and that has as one or more of its purposes community and economic development
15 in a region, or that will affect community and economic development in a region of this
16 state.

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 (3) "Local government" means a city, county, authority or entity organized under state
2 statute or city or county charter, and includes any council of governments created under
3 ORS chapter 190.

4 (4) "Natural resource agency" means the State Department of Agriculture, the Water
5 Resources Department, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the State Forestry De-
6 partment, the Department of State Lands, the State Department of Geology and Mineral
7 Industries and the State Marine Board.

8 (5) "Region" means an economic development district in Oregon, created by the Eco-
9 nomic Development Administration of the United States Department of Commerce, for which
10 a regional solutions center has been established under section 3 of this 2014 Act.

11 (6) "State agency" means an officer, board, commission, department, division, institution,
12 branch or agency in the executive or administrative branch of state government.

13 **SECTION 2.** (1) In awarding grants, loans or incentive funds for projects undertaken in
14 connection with grant, loan or incentive programs, state agencies listed in section 3 (3) of
15 this 2014 Act shall, consistent with the programs' enabling legislation, rules and regulations,
16 use regional priorities for community and economic development as described in section 3
17 of this 2014 Act in the consideration of project funding decisions and base decisions of which
18 projects to undertake upon whether the project will:

19 (a) Use regional and community-based problem solving.

20 (b) Support regional and community-based means of integrating state and local resources
21 and services.

22 (c) Create jobs in relation to the economy and population of the region directly impacted
23 by the project.

24 (d) Involve investment of capital in relation to the economy and population of the region
25 directly impacted by the project.

26 (e) Have community support, as indicated by the support of the governing body of the
27 local government.

28 (f) Have obtained appropriate land use and environmental reviews and authorizations
29 prior to utilization of funds.

30 (2) State agencies responsible for grant, loan or incentive programs shall collaborate with
31 the Regional Solutions Program and regional solutions centers, teams and advisory commit-
32 tees described in section 3 of this 2014 Act to integrate state investments, services and re-
33 sources on a regional basis and to align the priorities and purposes to promote community
34 and economic development throughout this state.

35 (3) Natural resource agencies shall collaborate to develop and deliver a plan to the Gov-
36 ernor that describes how natural resource agencies shall participate in regional solutions
37 teams.

38 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Regional Solutions Program is established within the office of the
39 Governor, in collaboration with state agencies, consisting of regional solutions centers de-
40 scribed in subsection (2) of this section, regional solutions teams described in subsection (3)
41 of this section and regional solutions advisory committees described in subsection (4) of this
42 section. The program shall work with state agencies, local governments, public and private
43 entities, philanthropic organizations and academic institutions, as appropriate, to develop
44 and coordinate regional implementation projects, identify regional priorities for community
45 and economic development, address issues and seize opportunities. The program shall inte-

1 **grate the work of state agencies and local governments with available funding to ensure that**
2 **regional implementation projects are completed in the most economical and streamlined**
3 **manner possible.**

4 **(2) The Regional Solutions Program includes regional solutions centers located through-**
5 **out this state. The centers provide a physical location for, and serve as the primary place**
6 **for the business and operations of, the regional solutions teams and the regional solutions**
7 **advisory committees.**

8 **(3)(a) Each regional solutions team shall include a regional solutions coordinator and**
9 **staff. Staff may include, but is not limited to, employees and representatives of the following**
10 **state agencies:**

11 **(A) The Department of Environmental Quality;**

12 **(B) The Department of Land Conservation and Development;**

13 **(C) The Department of Transportation;**

14 **(D) The Housing and Community Services Department;**

15 **(E) The Oregon Business Development Department; and**

16 **(F) Other state agencies identified by the regional solutions coordinator and the regional**
17 **solutions advisory committee to participate as necessary.**

18 **(b) Regional solutions teams shall operate in conjunction and consultation with regional**
19 **solutions advisory committees.**

20 **(c) Regional solutions teams shall address community and economic development by**
21 **working to address regional issues, priorities and opportunities and leveraging funding op-**
22 **portunities for sound and long-term economic growth.**

23 **(d) The directors and staff of the state agencies listed in paragraph (a) of this subsection**
24 **and natural resource agencies shall work with regional solutions coordinators and regional**
25 **solutions teams to fulfill regional priorities, in coordination with the office of the Governor.**

26 **(e) Regional solutions teams shall review and evaluate regional implementation project**
27 **proposals submitted in consultation with regional solutions advisory committees.**

28 **(f) In considering, reviewing or undertaking regional implementation project proposals**
29 **or projects that involve significant environmental issues, regional solutions coordinators**
30 **shall convene all affected stakeholders with the assistance of the Oregon Consensus Program**
31 **established within the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government for the purpose of providing**
32 **alternative dispute resolution services to seek to resolve disputed issues, if any.**

33 **(4)(a) A regional solutions advisory committee shall be appointed for each region. Each**
34 **committee shall consist of a minimum of five members appointed by the Governor, and**
35 **serving at the pleasure of the Governor, as follows:**

36 **(A) One local convenor who represents the region, who shall serve as chairperson of the**
37 **committee;**

38 **(B) One representative recommended by the executive body of the Association of Oregon**
39 **Counties;**

40 **(C) One representative recommended by the executive body of the League of Oregon**
41 **Cities;**

42 **(D) One person who represents local and regional business and industry interests; and**

43 **(E) One person who represents philanthropic organizations.**

44 **(b) Regional solutions advisory committees shall:**

45 **(A) Establish regional priorities for community and economic development in the region;**

1 **(B) Assist regional solutions coordinators and regional solutions teams with obtaining,**
2 **and connecting to, resources and funding; and**

3 **(C) Consider, review and recommend regional implementation project proposals.**

4 **(c) In considering, reviewing and recommending regional implementation project pro-**
5 **posals under this subsection, regional solutions advisory committees shall consider whether**
6 **the project proposal seeks to address the state's economically, socially and environmentally**
7 **sustainable goals and objectives described in ORS 184.423.**

8 **(d) Members of the regional solutions advisory committees are not entitled to compen-**
9 **sation for the performance of official duties and responsibilities.**

10 **(e) The regional solutions coordinators and regional solutions teams shall provide staff**
11 **to the regional solutions advisory committees as necessary to allow the committees to carry**
12 **out the provisions of paragraph (b) of this subsection.**

13 **SECTION 4.** **Before the beginning of the 2015 regular legislative session, the Governor**
14 **and the Director of the Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall develop a pro-**
15 **cess to provide public notice and the opportunity for public comment, and for consideration**
16 **of public comments, at regional solutions advisory committee meetings where the establish-**
17 **ment of regional priorities for community and economic development and regional imple-**
18 **mentation project proposals are being considered.**

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