

B-Engrossed
House Bill 4015

Ordered by the House March 3
Including House Amendments dated February 14 and March 3

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 **certain** state agencies are to use in making decisions about which projects to undertake.

[Requires state agencies 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.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to state agency alignment with regional community and economic development priorities;
3 and declaring an emergency.

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

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

6 **(1) "Community and economic development" means development that:**

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

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

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

12 **(d) Improves the economy in Oregon.**

13 **(2) "Grant, loan or incentive program" means any program or other type of undertaking**
14 **that a state agency has been authorized by the Legislative Assembly to establish, implement**
15 **and fund and that has as one or more of its purposes community and economic development**
16 **in a region, or that will affect community and economic development in a region of this**
17 **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.** 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)(a)(A)
15 to (E) of this 2014 Act shall, consistent with the programs’ enabling legislation, rules and
16 regulations, use regional priorities for community and economic development as described
17 in section 3 of this 2014 Act in the consideration of project funding decisions and base deci-
18 sions of which projects to undertake upon whether the project will:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

45 (A) The Department of Environmental Quality;

1 (B) The Department of Land Conservation and Development;

2 (C) The Department of Transportation;

3 (D) The Housing and Community Services Department;

4 (E) The Oregon Business Development Department; and

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

7 (b) Regional solutions teams shall operate in conjunction and consultation with regional
8 solutions advisory committees.

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

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

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

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

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

25 (A) One local convenor who represents the region, who shall serve as chairperson of the
26 committee;

27 (B) One representative recommended by the executive body of the Association of Oregon
28 Counties;

29 (C) One representative recommended by the executive body of the League of Oregon
30 Cities;

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

32 (E) One person who represents philanthropic organizations.

33 (b) Regional solutions advisory committees shall:

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

35 (B) Assist regional solutions coordinators and regional solutions teams with obtaining,
36 and connecting to, resources and funding; and

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

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

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

44 (e) The regional solutions coordinators and regional solutions teams shall provide staff
45 to the regional solutions advisory committees as necessary to allow the committees to carry

1 out the provisions of paragraph (b) of this subsection.

2 **SECTION 4.** On or before July 1, 2014, natural resource agencies as defined in section 1
3 of this 2014 Act shall collaborate to develop and deliver a plan to the Governor that describes
4 how natural resource agencies shall participate in regional solutions teams.

5 **SECTION 5.** Before the beginning of the 2015 regular legislative session, the Governor
6 and the Director of the Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall develop a pro-
7 cess to provide public notice and the opportunity for public comment, and for consideration
8 of public comments, at regional solutions advisory committee meetings where the establish-
9 ment of regional priorities for community and economic development and regional imple-
10 mentation project proposals are being considered.

11 **SECTION 6.** This 2014 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
12 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2014 Act takes effect
13 on its passage.
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