

# D R A F T

## SUMMARY

Modifies definition of “scientifically based research” with respect to evidence-based programs.

### A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to scientifically based research; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 182.515.

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

**SECTION 1.** ORS 182.515 is amended to read:

182.515. As used in this section and ORS 182.525:

(1) “Agency” means:

(a) The Department of Corrections;

(b) The Oregon Youth Authority;

(c) The Youth Development Division; and

(d) That part of the Oregon Health Authority that deals with mental health and addiction issues.

(2) “Cost-effective” means that benefits realized over a reasonable period of time are greater than costs, as determined utilizing a cost-benefit analytical tool identified by the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.

(3) “Evidence-based program” means a program that:

(a) Incorporates significant and relevant practices based on scientifically based research; and

(b) Is cost-effective.

(4)(a) “Program” means a treatment or intervention program or service that is intended to:

1 (A) Reduce the propensity of a person to commit crimes;

2 (B) Improve the mental health of a person with the result of reducing the  
3 likelihood that the person will commit a crime or need emergency mental  
4 health services; or

5 (C) Reduce the propensity of a person who is less than 18 years of age to  
6 engage in antisocial behavior with the result of reducing the likelihood that  
7 the person will become a juvenile offender.

8 (b) "Program" does not include:

9 (A) An educational program or service that an agency is required to  
10 provide to meet educational requirements imposed by state law; or

11 (B) A program that provides basic medical services.

12 (5) "Scientifically based research" means [*research that obtains reliable*  
13 *and valid knowledge by:*] **scientific evaluation that is rigorous, inde-**  
14 **pendent and credible and includes, at a minimum, scientific evaluation**  
15 **that:**

16 [(a) *Employing systematic, empirical methods that draw on observation or*  
17 *experiment;*]

18 [(b) *Involving rigorous data analyses that are adequate to test the stated*  
19 *hypotheses and justify the general conclusions drawn;*]

20 [(c) *Relying on measurements or observational methods that provide reliable*  
21 *and valid data across evaluators and observers, across multiple measurements*  
22 *and observations and across studies by the same or different investigators;*  
23 *and*]

24 [(d) *Utilizing randomized controlled trials when possible and*  
25 *appropriate.*]

26 (a) **Is conducted independently of any organization that has imple-**  
27 **mented, funded or supported a program;**

28 (b) **Includes any individual who was originally enrolled in a program**  
29 **regardless of whether the originally enrolled individual completed the**  
30 **program; and**

31 (c) **Is conducted pursuant to an experimental design using rigorous,**

1 **scientific methods to randomize the pool of participants and compar-**  
2 **isons made among participants.**

3 **SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 182.515 by section 1 of this**  
4 **2015 Act applies to evidence-based programs implemented on or after**  
5 **the effective date of this 2015 Act.**

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