

House Bill 2603

Sponsored by Representative SMITH WARNER (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 **as introduced**.

Provides that ORS 30.868, regarding civil damages for custodial interference, shall be known and may be cited as "Aaron's Law."

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to citation of ORS 30.868.

3 Whereas during the 2005 regular session, the Seventy-third Legislative Assembly passed Senate
4 Bill 1041, sponsored by Senator Avel Gordly, which became chapter 841, Oregon Laws 2005, and was
5 codified as ORS 30.868; and

6 Whereas with the enactment of Senate Bill 1041, Oregon became the first state in the nation
7 where abducting a child creates a civil cause of action; and

8 Whereas Senate Bill 1041 is the culmination of the work of the 2004 Interim Task Force on
9 Parental and Family Abductions and of Senator Gordly's chief of staff, Sean Aaron Cruz; and

10 Whereas Sean Aaron Cruz's own four children disappeared from Oregon in 1996; and

11 Whereas Sean Aaron Cruz's eldest son, Aaron Cruz, died in Utah in April 2005 as a consequence
12 of the abduction, inspiring the Legislative Assembly to act on Senate Bill 1041; and

13 Whereas Senate Bill 1041 passed 26-3 in the Senate and 59-0 in the House of Representatives
14 and was signed into law by Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski on September 2, 2005; and

15 Whereas Senate Bill 1041 is referred to as "Aaron's Law" by members of the legal community,
16 including presenters at the State Family Law Advisory Committee's Family Law Conference; and

17 Whereas designating Senate Bill 1041 as "Aaron's Law" is a fitting tribute to the memory of
18 Aaron Cruz, whose death was not in vain; now, therefore,

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

20 **SECTION 1. ORS 30.868 shall be known and may be cited as "Aaron's Law."**
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