

Senate Bill 632

Sponsored by Senators SHIELDS, BAERTSCHIGER JR, Representative STARK; Senators RILEY, STEINER HAYWARD, Representatives BUEHLER, KENY-GUYER, OLSON

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**.

Directs Department of Human Services to establish two pilot programs in rural and urban regions of this state to improve quality and effectiveness of foster care for children and wards placed in legal custody of department for care, placement and supervision.

Requires department to evaluate pilot programs and report to Legislative Assembly on or before September 15, 2016.

Appropriates moneys to department to establish pilot programs.

Sunsets January 2, 2017.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to pilot programs to improve foster care; and declaring an emergency.

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

3 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Human Services shall develop and implement two pi-**
4 **lot programs, one in a rural part of this state and the other in an urban part of this state,**
5 **to improve the quality and effectiveness of foster care for children and wards who have been**
6 **placed in the legal custody of the department for care, placement and supervision. The pro-**
7 **grams must provide culturally appropriate training and support to persons providing foster**
8 **care as part of case plans or permanency plans for placement of the children or wards. The**
9 **programs shall target children and wards who have experienced multiple foster care place-**
10 **ments and who are at significant risk of suffering lifelong emotional, behavioral, develop-**
11 **mental and physical consequences due to disrupted and unsuccessful placements in the foster**
12 **care system.**

13
14 **(2) The department shall designate the rural and urban regions in which the pilot pro-**
15 **grams will be established and may contract with one or more nonprofit entities to implement**
16 **the pilot programs in those regions.**

17 **(3) The department shall study and perform an evaluation of the pilot programs imple-**
18 **mented under this section that shall include, but not be limited to, a comparison of place-**
19 **ment outcomes for children and wards who participated in the pilot programs as compared**
20 **to children and wards in nonpilot program placements.**

21 **(4) The department and any nonprofit entities with which the department has contracted**
22 **under this section may solicit and accept gifts, grants and donations from public and private**
23 **sources to further the purposes of this section.**

24 **(5) The department may use any available state and federal funds that the department**
25 **deems appropriate to implement the provisions of this section.**

26 **(6) The department may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section.**

27 **SECTION 2. On or before September 15, 2016, the Department of Human Services shall**

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 prepare and submit a report to the standing and interim committees of the Legislative As-
2 sembly that have authority over the subject areas of child welfare and juvenile dependency
3 regarding the status of the pilot programs implemented and the results of the study and
4 evaluation of the pilot programs performed as required under section 1 of this 2015 Act.

5 **SECTION 3.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
6 ated to the Department of Human Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, out of
7 the General Fund, the amount of \$1 million, which may be expended for the purposes of im-
8 plementing section 1 of this 2015 Act.

9 **SECTION 4.** The pilot programs implemented under section 1 of this 2015 Act may target
10 children or wards who are in the legal custody of the Department of Human Services for
11 care, placement and supervision before, on or after the effective date of this 2015 Act.

12 **SECTION 5.** Section 1 of this 2015 Act is repealed on January 2, 2017.

13 **SECTION 6.** This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
14 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect
15 on its passage.

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