HB 3025-4 (LC 2100) 4/17/15 (CJC/ps)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 3025

1 On <u>page 1</u> of the printed bill, line 2, after "provisions;" insert "and".

2 In line 3, after "659A.885" insert a period and delete the rest of the line.

3 Delete lines 5 through 30 and delete pages 2 through 5 and insert:

4 "<u>SECTION 1.</u> It is an unlawful employment practice for an em-5 ployer to:

"(1) Use job application forms that inquire into the conviction his tory of an applicant for employment;

"(2) Inquire into or consider the conviction history of an applicant
for employment prior to conducting an interview with the applicant;
or

"(3) Inquire into or consider the conviction history of an applicant
 for employment prior to making a conditional offer of employment to
 the applicant when no interview is conducted.

14 "SECTION 2. ORS 659A.885 is amended to read:

"659A.885. (1) Any person claiming to be aggrieved by an unlawful prac-15tice specified in subsection (2) of this section may file a civil action in cir-16 cuit court. In any action under this subsection, the court may order 17 injunctive relief and any other equitable relief that may be appropriate, in-18 cluding but not limited to reinstatement or the hiring of employees with or 19 without back pay. A court may order back pay in an action under this sub-20section only for the two-year period immediately preceding the filing of a 21complaint under ORS 659A.820 with the Commissioner of the Bureau of La-22

bor and Industries, or if a complaint was not filed before the action was commenced, the two-year period immediately preceding the filing of the action. In any action under this subsection, the court may allow the prevailing party costs and reasonable attorney fees at trial and on appeal. Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section:

6 "(a) The judge shall determine the facts in an action under this sub-7 section; and

"(b) Upon any appeal of a judgment in an action under this subsection,
the appellate court shall review the judgment pursuant to the standard established by ORS 19.415 (3).

"(2) An action may be brought under subsection (1) of this section alleg-11 ing a violation of ORS 10.090, 10.092, 25.337, 25.424, 171.120, 408.230, 408.237 12 (2), 476.574, 652.355, 653.060, 659A.030, 659A.040, 659A.043, 659A.046, 659A.063, 13 659A.069, 659A.082, 659A.088, 659A.103 to 659A.145, 659A.150 to 659A.186, 14 659A.194, 659A.199, 659A.203, 659A.218, 659A.228, 659A.230, 659A.233, 15659A.236, 659A.250 to 659A.262, 659A.277, 659A.290, 659A.300, 659A.306, 16 659A.309, 659A.315, 659A.318, 659A.320 or 659A.421 or section 1 of this 2015 17 Act. 18

"(3) In any action under subsection (1) of this section alleging a violation
of ORS 25.337, 25.424, 659A.030, 659A.040, 659A.043, 659A.046, 659A.069,
659A.082, 659A.103 to 659A.145, 659A.199, 659A.228, 659A.230, 659A.250 to
659A.262, 659A.290, 659A.318 or 659A.421:

"(a) The court may award, in addition to the relief authorized under
subsection (1) of this section, compensatory damages or \$200, whichever is
greater, and punitive damages;

²⁶ "(b) At the request of any party, the action shall be tried to a jury;

"(c) Upon appeal of any judgment finding a violation, the appellate court
shall review the judgment pursuant to the standard established by ORS
19.415 (1); and

³⁰ "(d) Any attorney fee agreement shall be subject to approval by the court.

HB 3025-4 4/17/15 Proposed Amendments to HB 3025 "(4) In any action under subsection (1) of this section alleging a violation of ORS 652.355 or 653.060, the court may award, in addition to the relief authorized under subsection (1) of this section, compensatory damages or \$200, whichever is greater.

5 "(5) In any action under subsection (1) of this section alleging a violation 6 of ORS 171.120, 476.574, 659A.203 or 659A.218, the court may award, in addi-7 tion to the relief authorized under subsection (1) of this section, 8 compensatory damages or \$250, whichever is greater.

9 "(6) In any action under subsection (1) of this section alleging a violation 10 of ORS 10.090 or 10.092, the court may award, in addition to the relief au-11 thorized under subsection (1) of this section, a civil penalty in the amount 12 of \$720.

"(7) Any individual against whom any distinction, discrimination or re-13 striction on account of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national 14 origin, marital status or age, if the individual is 18 years of age or older, 15has been made by any place of public accommodation, as defined in ORS 16 659A.400, by any employee or person acting on behalf of the place or by any 17 person aiding or abetting the place or person in violation of ORS 659A.406 18 may bring an action against the operator or manager of the place, the em-19 ployee or person acting on behalf of the place or the aider or abettor of the 20place or person. Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, in an action 21under this subsection: 22

"(a) The court may award, in addition to the relief authorized under
subsection (1) of this section, compensatory and punitive damages;

"(b) The operator or manager of the place of public accommodation, the employee or person acting on behalf of the place, and any aider or abettor shall be jointly and severally liable for all damages awarded in the action;

"(c) At the request of any party, the action shall be tried to a jury;
"(d) The court shall award reasonable attorney fees to a prevailing
plaintiff;

"(e) The court may award reasonable attorney fees and expert witness fees incurred by a defendant who prevails only if the court determines that the plaintiff had no objectively reasonable basis for asserting a claim or no reasonable basis for appealing an adverse decision of a trial court; and

"(f) Upon any appeal of a judgment under this subsection, the appellate
court shall review the judgment pursuant to the standard established by ORS
19.415 (1).

"(8) When the commissioner or the Attorney General has reasonable cause 8 to believe that a person or group of persons is engaged in a pattern or 9 practice of resistance to the rights protected by ORS 659A.145 or 659A.421 10 or federal housing law, or that a group of persons has been denied any of the 11 rights protected by ORS 659A.145 or 659A.421 or federal housing law, the 12 commissioner or the Attorney General may file a civil action on behalf of 13 the aggrieved persons in the same manner as a person or group of persons 14 may file a civil action under this section. In a civil action filed under this 15 subsection, the court may assess against the respondent, in addition to the 16 relief authorized under subsections (1) and (3) of this section, a civil penalty: 17

18 "(a) In an amount not exceeding \$50,000 for a first violation; and

19 "(b) In an amount not exceeding \$100,000 for any subsequent violation.

"(9) In any action under subsection (1) of this section alleging a violation 20of ORS 659A.145 or 659A.421 or alleging discrimination under federal housing 21law, when the commissioner is pursuing the action on behalf of an aggrieved 22complainant, the court shall award reasonable attorney fees to the commis-23sioner if the commissioner prevails in the action. The court may award rea-24sonable attorney fees and expert witness fees incurred by a defendant that 25prevails in the action if the court determines that the commissioner had no 26objectively reasonable basis for asserting the claim or for appealing an ad-27verse decision of the trial court. 28

"(10) In an action under subsection (1) or (8) of this section alleging a violation of ORS 659A.145 or 659A.421 or discrimination under federal hous1 ing law:

12

2 "(a) 'Aggrieved person' includes a person who believes that the person:

"(A) Has been injured by an unlawful practice or discriminatory housing
practice; or

5 "(B) Will be injured by an unlawful practice or discriminatory housing 6 practice that is about to occur.

"(b) An aggrieved person in regard to issues to be determined in an action
may intervene as of right in the action. The Attorney General may intervene
in the action if the Attorney General certifies that the case is of general
public importance. The court may allow an intervenor prevailing party costs
and reasonable attorney fees at trial and on appeal.".