SB 380-A2 (LC 1217) 6/4/15 (CJC/ps)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO A-ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 380

1 On <u>page 1</u> of the printed A-engrossed bill, line 3, after "bureau;" insert 2 "creating new provisions;".

3 On page 2, after line 32, insert:

"SECTION 3. No later than February 1, 2017, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries shall submit to the appropriate legislative committees a written report on the resolution of complaints before the commissioner in the two-year period prior to the effective date of this 2015 Act and on the resolution of those complaints after the implementation of the amendments to ORS 659A.845 and 659A.870 by sections 1 and 2 of this 2015 Act.

"SECTION 4. ORS 659A.845, as amended by section 1 of this 2015 Act,
 is amended to read:

"659A.845. (1) If the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries 13 issues a finding of substantial evidence under ORS 659A.835 and the matter 14 cannot be settled through conference, conciliation and persuasion, or if the 15commissioner determines that the interest of justice requires that a hearing 16 be held without first seeking settlement, the commissioner [may] shall pre-17 pare formal charges. Formal charges must contain all information required 18 for a notice under ORS 183.415 and must specify the allegations of the com-19 plaint to which the respondent will be required to make response. Formal 20charges shall also set the time and place for hearing the formal charges. 21

²² "(2)(a) The commissioner shall serve the formal charges on all respond-

1 ents found to have engaged in the unlawful practice.

"(b) If the formal charges allege a violation of ORS 659A.145 or 659A.421
or discrimination under federal housing law, the commissioner shall serve
on the named respondents and complainants the formal charges and a notice
of the right of the respondents and complainants under ORS 659A.870 to opt
for a court trial instead of a hearing under ORS 659A.850.

7 "(3) The commissioner may not prepare formal charges alleging an un-8 lawful practice under ORS 659A.145 or 659A.421 or discrimination under 9 federal housing law after trial has begun in a civil action that the 10 complainant commenced under state or federal law and that seeks relief with 11 respect to that unlawful or discriminatory practice.

"<u>SECTION 5.</u> ORS 659A.870, as amended by section 2 of this 2015 Act,
 is amended to read:

"659A.870. (1) Except as provided in this section, the filing of a civil action by a person in circuit court pursuant to ORS 659A.885, or in federal district court under applicable federal law, waives the right of the person to file a complaint with the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries under ORS 659A.820 with respect to the matters alleged in the civil action.

20 "(2) The filing of a complaint under ORS 659A.820 is not a condition 21 precedent to the filing of any civil action.

"(3) If a person files a civil action alleging an unlawful practice under ORS 659A.145 or 659A.421 or discrimination under federal housing law, the filing does not constitute an election of remedies or a waiver of the right of the person to file a complaint with the commissioner under ORS 659A.820, but the commissioner shall dismiss the complaint upon the commencement of a trial in the civil action.

"(4)(a) The filing of a complaint under ORS 659A.820 by a person alleging
 an unlawful practice under ORS 659A.145 or 659A.421 or discrimination un der federal housing law does not constitute an election of remedies or a

waiver of the right of the person to file a civil action with respect to the
same matters, but a civil action may not be filed after a hearing officer has
commenced a hearing on the record under this chapter with respect to the
allegations of the complaint.

"(b) A respondent or complainant named in a complaint filed under ORS $\mathbf{5}$ 659A.820 or 659A.825 alleging an unlawful practice under ORS 659A.145 or 6 659A.421 or discrimination under federal housing law may elect to have the 7 matter heard in circuit court under ORS 659A.885. The election must be made 8 in writing and received by the commissioner within 20 days after service of 9 formal charges under ORS 659A.845. If the respondent or the complainant 10 makes the election, the commissioner [may] shall pursue the matter in court 11 on behalf of the complainant at no cost to the complainant. 12

"(c) If the Attorney General or the commissioner files a complaint under
 ORS 659A.825, the Attorney General or the commissioner may elect to have
 the matter heard in circuit court under ORS 659A.885.

"(d) If the respondent, the complainant, the Attorney General or the commissioner do not elect to have the matter heard in circuit court, the commissioner may conduct a hearing on the formal charges under ORS 659A.850.

"(5) A person who has filed a complaint under ORS 659A.820 need not receive a 90-day notice under ORS 659A.880 before commencing a civil action that is based on the same matters alleged in the complaint filed with the commissioner.

"(6) Except as provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, this section does not limit or alter in any way the authority or power of the commissioner, or limit or alter in any way any of the rights of an individual complainant, until and unless the complainant commences a civil action.

"<u>SECTION 6.</u> The amendments to ORS 659A.845 and 659A.870 by
 sections 4 and 5 of this 2015 Act become operative on October 1, 2017.
 "<u>SECTION 7.</u> Section 3 of this 2015 Act is repealed on October 1,

1 **2017.**".

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In line 33, delete "3" and insert "8".
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