

Requested by HOUSE COMMITTEE ON REVENUE

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
A-ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 4144**

1 On page 1 of the printed A-engrossed bill, line 2, after the semicolon de-
2 lete the rest of the line and insert “and prescribing an effective date.”.

3 Delete lines 4 through 19 and delete pages 2 and 3 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Utilization of the Earned In-
5 come Tax Credit is established.**

6 **“(2) The task force consists of 17 members appointed as follows:**

7 **“(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint:**

8 **“(A) One member from among members of the Senate.**

9 **“(B) Two members who represent nonprofit organizations that serve
10 low-income families. At least one member of the task force shall rep-
11 resent an organization that primarily serves individuals living in rural
12 communities.**

13 **“(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint:**

14 **“(A) One member from among members of the House of Represen-
15 tatives.**

16 **“(B) Two members who represent nonprofit organizations that serve
17 low-income families. At least one member of the task force shall rep-
18 resent an organization that primarily serves individuals living in rural
19 communities.**

20 **“(c) The Governor shall appoint one representative from each of the
21 following:**

1 **“(A) The Governor’s office.**

2 **“(B) The Department of Human Services.**

3 **“(C) The Oregon Health Authority.**

4 **“(D) The Department of Revenue.**

5 **“(E) The Housing and Community Services Department.**

6 **“(F) The Department of Education.**

7 **“(G) The Employment Department.**

8 **“(H) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services.**

9 **“(I) The Department of Veterans’ Affairs.**

10 **“(d) The Governor shall appoint two representatives from entities**
11 **that possess expertise in assisting taxpayers with the filing of tax re-**
12 **turns, including filing by electronic means. One representative shall**
13 **be from a commercial tax preparation service and one shall be from**
14 **a nonprofit entity that provides tax preparation assistance to taxpay-**
15 **ers.**

16 **“(3) The term of office of each member is four years, but a member**
17 **serves at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Before the expira-**
18 **tion of the term of a member, the appointing authority shall appoint**
19 **a successor whose term begins on July 1 next following. A member is**
20 **eligible for reappointment. If there is a vacancy for any cause, the**
21 **appointing authority shall make an appointment to become imme-**
22 **diately effective for the unexpired term.**

23 **“(4) The task force shall study:**

24 **“(a) The rates of legal utilization, by Oregon personal income tax-**
25 **payers, of the federal earned income tax credits allowed under section**
26 **32 of the Internal Revenue Code and the credits allowed under ORS**
27 **315.264 and 315.266; and**

28 **“(b) Potential methods for increasing rates of utilization of the tax**
29 **credits listed in paragraph (a) of this subsection.**

30 **“(5) The task force may make recommendations to the Legislative**

1 Assembly for legislation to promote outreach efforts regarding the
2 availability of and increased utilization of the earned income tax
3 credits and dependent care tax credits.

4 “(6) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes
5 a quorum for the transaction of business.

6 “(7) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a
7 majority of the voting members of the task force.

8 “(8) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as
9 chairperson.

10 “(9) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority
11 shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

12 “(10) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the
13 call of the chairperson or of a majority of the voting members of the
14 task force.

15 “(11) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation
16 of the task force.

17 “(12) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided
18 by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to
19 an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to human
20 services no later than September 15 of each year.

21 “(13) The Department of Human Services shall lead, and shall pro-
22 vide staff support to, the task force.

23 “(14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111,
24 are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the task
25 force’s duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to
26 confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the
27 task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

28 **“SECTION 2.** The Department of Revenue shall promote taxpayer
29 awareness about tax credits that assist low-income taxpayers and
30 about the availability of free taxpayer assistance, including the fol-

1 **lowing:**

2 **“(1) Organizations that offer tax return preparation assistance to**
3 **taxpayers preparing their own tax returns;**

4 **“(2) Vendors that are approved by the department and the Internal**
5 **Revenue Service and that offer free tax return preparation services;**
6 **and**

7 **“(3) Outreach strategies implemented by the Internal Revenue Ser-**
8 **vice, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day, typically**
9 **occurring annually in January and organized by the Internal Revenue**
10 **Service.**

11 **“SECTION 3. This 2016 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the**
12 **date on which the 2016 regular session of the Seventy-eighth Legisla-**
13 **tive Assembly adjourns sine die.”.**

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