

## HB 2959 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Human Services and Housing

---

**Action Date:** 03/30/17

**Action:** Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

**Vote:** 9-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 9 - Gorsek, Keny-Guyer, Meek, Nearman, Noble, Olson, Piluso, Sanchez, Stark

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Cassandra Soucy, LPRO Analyst

---

#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of Human Services to administer general assistance project. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2017.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cash assistance to persons with disabilities or persons who are homeless
- Gap assistance during period before disbursement of federal assistance
- Disbursement and reimbursement of General Assistance funds

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

Oregon's General Assistance project (GA project) was reinstated with the passage of House Bill 4042 during the 2016 Legislative Session. The GA project provides housing assistance, utility assistance, and cash assistance to individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of losing their housing, receiving Presumptive Medicaid benefits and has a disability qualifying them for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits. The assistance given through the GA project may be recovered when the individual receives SSI or SSDI benefits.

House Bill 2959 appropriates moneys, in addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services to administer the general assistance project.