House Bill 2446

Sponsored by Representative PARRISH (Presession filed.)

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 Housing and Community Services Department and Oregon Housing Stability Council to seek, obtain and renew waivers of certain federal rental subsidy and assistance payment requirements to increase availability of payments under federal rent subsidy program.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to waivers of certain federal rent subsidy requirements; amending ORS 456.395.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 456.395 is amended to read:

456.395. (1) The Housing and Community Services Department and the Oregon Housing Stability Council shall cooperate with and assist local housing authorities as defined in ORS 456.375 to obtain federal approval, renewal of an existing waiver of federal requirements or a new waiver of federal requirements, as necessary to make the use and distribution of federal rent subsidy and assistance payments under 42 U.S.C. 1437f as efficient and beneficial as possible to increase the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing for persons of low income and very low income in this state.

- (2) In addition to the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, the department and council shall seek and obtain new waivers, and renew existing waivers, of federal requirements so as to ensure that individuals or families who are otherwise determined to be eligible to receive federal rent subsidy and assistance payments under 42 U.S.C. 1437f continue to remain eligible under one or more of the following circumstances:
- (a) The landlord is not a relative of the individual or family or a recipient of a federal rent subsidy and assistance payment under 42 U.S.C. 1437f.
 - (b) The landlord lives in the same dwelling unit as the eligible individual or family.
- (c) The individual or family has entered into a rental or lease agreement with the landlord for a minimum of six months.
- (d) The individual or family has access to communal living space, including but not limited to a kitchen, laundry facility and open areas of the dwelling unit, if such areas or facilities are not available separately to the individual or family.
- (e) The individual or family has access to, and the ability to lock, a private bedroom and bathroom space that is not accessible to the landlord without the individual's or family's permission.
- (3) The actions of the department and council in seeking, obtaining and renewing waivers under subsection (2) of this section shall not affect the application of any other applicable local, state and federal fair housing laws and laws regarding the rights and responsibilities of landlords and tenants.

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