

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2534

Ordered by the House April 20
Including House Amendments dated April 20

Sponsored by Representative REARDON (Pre-session 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.

[Establishes Community Leverage Fund. Directs Oregon Business Development Department to make grants and loans from fund for proposals that address multiple outcomes in health, early learning, workforce and economic development and education. Requires that grants and loans be distributed in substantially equal amounts among economic development regions in state.]

Establishes Oregon Opportunity Commission. Authorizes commission to make grants and loans from Oregon Opportunity Fund to support local communities that have submitted plan to address poverty. Directs commission to adopt rules setting criteria for awarding and uses of grants and loans.

Establishes Oregon Opportunity Fund. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to commission for deposit in Oregon Opportunity Fund.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to concentrated poverty; and declaring an emergency.

3 Whereas one of the most effective ways to shift a community from a collective community of
4 concentrated poverty to a community of opportunity is to enhance the network of resource sharing
5 and public agency and community collaboration, and to provide resources to support collaborative
6 efforts; and

7 Whereas community initiated and community led efforts are most likely to succeed in addressing
8 communities of concentrated poverty in a way that is sustainable; and

9 Whereas a lack of capacity to collaborate, inflexible funding streams, burdensome reporting re-
10 quirements and a lack of coordination of efforts by state agencies make it difficult for communities
11 to take action to alleviate poverty and enhance opportunity; and

12 Whereas leveraging public and private efforts and resources can greatly increase the opportu-
13 nities for communities to improve situations of concentrated poverty; now, therefore,

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

15 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Opportunity Commission is established.**

16 **(2) The commission consists of 19 members, as follows:**

17 **(a) The Governor;**

18 **(b) The Superintendent of Public Instruction;**

19 **(c) The Director of the Oregon Health Authority;**

20 **(d) The Director of Human Services;**

21 **(e) The Chief Education Officer;**

22 **(f) The chairperson of the State Workforce Investment Board;**

23 **(g) A person appointed by the Governor representing a county solutions program;**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (h) A person appointed by the Governor representing a regional solutions program;

2 (i) A person appointed by the Governor representing the Ford Family Foundation;

3 (j) A person appointed by the Governor representing the Oregon Community Foundation;

4 (k) A person appointed by the Governor representing the Oregon Business Council;

5 (L) A person appointed by the Governor representing the United States Department of
6 Agriculture;

7 (m) A person appointed by the Governor representing the United States Department of
8 Housing and Urban Development;

9 (n) Four persons appointed by the Governor representing communities of concentrated
10 poverty;

11 (o) One person appointed by the Governor representing a nonprofit organization that
12 supports racial minority communities in this state; and

13 (p) One person appointed by the Governor representing a nonprofit organization that
14 provides services to Native American communities.

15 (3) The Governor, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Director of the Oregon
16 Health Authority, the Director of Human Services, the Chief Education Officer and the
17 chairperson of the State Workforce Investment Board are ex officio members of the com-
18 mission and have the same powers as appointed members.

19 (4) The term of office of each appointed member of the commission is four years, but a
20 member serves at the pleasure of the Governor. Terms commence on July 1. Before the ex-
21 piration of the term of a member, the Governor shall appoint a successor. A member is eli-
22 gible for reappointment. If there is a vacancy for any cause, the Governor shall make an
23 appointment to become immediately effective for the unexpired term.

24 (5) The appointment of each member of the commission is subject to confirmation by the
25 Senate in the manner prescribed in ORS 171.562 and 171.565.

26 (6) An appointed member of the commission is entitled to compensation and expenses as
27 provided in ORS 292.495.

28 (7) The appointed members of the commission must be residents of this state who are
29 well informed on the causes and effects of poverty in this state.

30 (8) The Office of the Governor shall provide staff and administrative support to the
31 commission.

32 **SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding the term of office specified by section 1 of this 2017 Act,
33 of the members first appointed to the Oregon Opportunity Commission:

34 (1) Three shall serve for a term ending June 30, 2018.

35 (2) Three shall serve for a term ending June 30, 2019.

36 (3) Three shall serve for a term ending June 30, 2020.

37 (4) Four shall serve for a term ending June 30, 2021.

38 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Oregon Opportunity Fund is established in the State Treasury, sep-
39 arate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Oregon Opportunity Fund
40 shall be credited to the fund.

41 (2) Moneys in the Oregon Opportunity Fund shall consist of:

42 (a) Moneys deposited pursuant to this section;

43 (b) Amounts donated to the fund;

44 (c) Amounts appropriated or otherwise transferred to the fund by the Legislative As-
45 sembly;

1 (d) Investment earnings received on moneys in the fund; and

2 (e) Other amounts deposited in the fund from any source.

3 (3) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Opportunity Com-
4 mission for the purposes described in sections 1 to 8 of this 2017 Act.

5 (4) The commission may establish accounts and subaccounts within the fund when the
6 commission determines that accounts or subaccounts are necessary or desirable, and may
7 credit any interest or income derived from moneys in the fund to any account or subaccount
8 in the fund.

9 (5) The commission may use moneys in the fund to pay the staffing expenses of the
10 commission and the administrative costs associated with the fund and with making grants,
11 loans and other distributions of moneys from the fund.

12 **SECTION 4.** (1) The Oregon Opportunity Commission may make grants and loans from
13 the Oregon Opportunity Fund to support local communities that have submitted a commu-
14 nity driven plan to address poverty in that community. The commission shall adopt rules
15 setting criteria for the awarding and uses of grants and loans under this section.

16 (2) The commission shall:

17 (a) Administer the fund to assist local communities to reduce concentrated poverty, in
18 accordance with the criteria set by the commission by rule;

19 (b) Develop a community self-assessment tool to measure a community's current capac-
20 ity to address concentrated poverty in that community;

21 (c) Develop approaches to make the awarding and uses of moneys to reduce concentrated
22 poverty more flexible and coordinated;

23 (d) Establish a simple process for communities to apply for moneys from the fund and
24 provide assistance with the application process;

25 (e) Identify and advocate for revisions to laws and rules that hinder or are not useful to
26 communities working to reduce concentrated poverty and enhance economic and social op-
27 portunities; and

28 (f) Identify incentives for public and private sector collaboration that will leverage
29 available resources to assist the communities in reducing concentrated poverty.

30 **SECTION 5.** (1) The Governor shall serve as chairperson of the Oregon Opportunity
31 Commission. The commission shall select one of its members as vice chairperson, for a term
32 and with duties and powers necessary for the performance of the functions of that office as
33 the commission determines.

34 (2) A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum for the trans-
35 action of business.

36 (3) The commission shall meet at least once every six months at a time and place de-
37 termined by the Governor. The commission also may meet at other times and places speci-
38 fied by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of all of the members of the commission.

39 **SECTION 6.** (1) The Oregon Opportunity Commission shall appoint a director, who shall
40 serve at the pleasure of the commission.

41 (2) The appointment of the director must be by written order filed with the Secretary of
42 State.

43 (3) Subject to any applicable provisions of ORS chapter 240, the director shall employ all
44 subordinate officers and employees of the commission, prescribe their duties and fix their
45 compensation.

1 **SECTION 7.** In accordance with applicable provisions of ORS chapter 183, the Oregon
2 Opportunity Commission may adopt rules necessary for the administration of the laws and
3 rules that the commission is charged with administering.

4 **SECTION 8.** The Oregon Opportunity Commission, the director of the commission and
5 authorized representatives of the commission may administer oaths, take depositions and
6 issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents or
7 other written information necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 1 to 8 of this 2017
8 Act. If any person fails to comply with a subpoena issued under this section or refuses to
9 testify on matters on which the person lawfully may be interrogated, the procedure set out
10 in ORS 183.440 shall be followed to compel obedience.

11 **SECTION 9.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
12 ated to the Oregon Opportunity Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, out of
13 the General Fund, the amount of \$____, to be deposited in the Oregon Opportunity Fund es-
14 tablished in section 3 of this 2017 Act.

15 **SECTION 10.** (1) Sections 1 to 8 of this 2017 Act become operative January 1, 2018.

16 (2) The Governor may take any action before January 1, 2018, that is necessary to enable
17 the Governor, on or after January 1, 2018, to exercise the duties, functions and powers con-
18 ferred on the Governor by sections 1 to 8 of this 2017 Act.

19 **SECTION 11.** This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
20 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect
21 on its passage.
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