

Enrolled
House Bill 2742

Sponsored by Representatives MCLANE, HUFFMAN; Representative SMITH G

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to the Wildfire Damage Housing Relief Account; creating new provisions; amending ORS 458.667; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 458.667 is amended to read:

458.667. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Households of lower income" means persons or families residing in this state whose federal adjusted gross income for the tax year preceding the year in which a loss of housing due to wildfire occurs does not exceed [75] **200** percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

(b) "Wildfire" has the meaning given that term in ORS 477.089.

(2) The Housing and Community Services Department shall administer the Wildfire Damage Housing Relief Account to assist households of lower income that suffer a loss of housing due to a wildfire. **Except as provided in this section,** the department shall provide assistance from the account as grants in the amount of [~~\$5,000~~] **\$7,000** each. **The department may reduce or refuse assistance from the account if the household has received insurance proceeds or other compensation for all or part of the loss of housing.**

(3) Notwithstanding the grant amount specified in subsection (2) of this section, if the full payment of valid claims for assistance under this section would exceed the available balance of the account, the department may make a pro rata reduction in grant amounts to increase the number of claimants who receive assistance.

(4) The department may expend funds from the account to pay administrative expenses incurred under this section.

(5) Any moneys that the department provides as assistance under this section, and any administrative expenses incurred by the department in providing assistance under this section, are objectively verifiable monetary losses for purposes of ORS 477.089. Any moneys recovered by the department for those losses shall be deposited to the account.

SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 458.667 by section 1 of this 2017 Act apply to housing losses occurring on or after the effective date of this 2017 Act.

SECTION 3. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect July 1, 2017.

Passed by House July 1, 2017

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate July 5, 2017

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M,....., 2017

Approved:

.....M,....., 2017

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M,....., 2017

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Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State