

# House Bill 2742

Sponsored by Representative MCLANE

## 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**.

Increases household income limitation for receipt of financial assistance from Wildfire Damage Housing Relief Account. Increases amount of grants issued from account.  
Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2017.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to the Wildfire Damage Housing Relief Account; creating new provisions; amending ORS  
3 458.667; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 458.667 is amended to read:

6 458.667. (1) As used in this section:

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

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

11 (2) The Housing and Community Services Department shall administer the Wildfire Damage  
12 Housing Relief Account to assist households of lower income that suffer a loss of housing due to a  
13 wildfire. The department shall provide assistance from the account as grants in the amount of  
14 [*\$5,000*] **\$7,000** each.

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

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

21 (5) Any moneys that the department provides as assistance under this section, and any admin-  
22 istrative expenses incurred by the department in providing assistance under this section, are objec-  
23 tively verifiable monetary losses for purposes of ORS 477.089. Any moneys recovered by the  
24 department for those losses shall be deposited to the account.

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

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

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**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.