

House Bill 2925

Sponsored by Representative ESQUIVEL; Representatives WHISNANT, WILSON

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**.

Creates Task Force on Public Assistance Reform to study steps taken in Maine and Kansas to reduce public assistance expenditures. Directs task force to report findings, including recommendations for legislative changes, to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to human services by September 15, 2018.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to public assistance; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Public Assistance Reform is established.**

5 **(2) The task force consists of nine members appointed as follows:**

6 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from the majority party in the**
7 **Senate and one member from the minority party in the Senate.**

8 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from the**
9 **majority party of the House of Representatives and one member from the minority party in**
10 **the House of Representatives.**

11 **(c) The Governor shall appoint:**

12 **(A) One representative from the Department of Human Services with management re-**
13 **sponsibilities in the temporary assistance for needy families program; and**

14 **(B) Four members who are not employees of the Department of Human Services who**
15 **have knowledge and expertise regarding the temporary assistance for needy families program**
16 **or other public assistance programs.**

17 **(3) The task force shall study the steps that have been taken by the legislatures in Maine**
18 **and Kansas to reduce expenditures in their temporary assistance for needy families pro-**
19 **grams and other public assistance programs.**

20 **(4) The task force may, based upon the study described in subsection (3) of this section,**
21 **recommend legislative changes necessary to reduce expenditures in the temporary assistance**
22 **for needy families program or other public assistance programs in this state.**

23 **(5) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction**
24 **of business.**

25 **(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**
26 **of the task force.**

27 **(7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.**

28 **(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
29 **ment to become immediately effective.**

30 **(9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson**

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 or of a majority of the members of the task force.

2 (10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

3 (11) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
4 may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative
5 Assembly related to human services no later than September 15, 2018.

6 (12) The Department of Human Services shall provide staff support to the task force.

7 (13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
8 entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task
9 force.

10 (14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
11 the task force in the performance of the task force's duties and, to the extent permitted by
12 laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
13 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

14 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2017 Act is repealed on December 31, 2018.

15 SECTION 3. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
16 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect
17 on its passage.

18