Senate Bill 1016

Sponsored by Senator FERRIOLI

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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 position of State Ombudsman, appointed by Governor. Defines duties and authority of ombudsman.

Abolishes Office of Children's Advocate, Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman, position of Corrections Ombudsman, Oregon Health Authority positions for providing ombudsman services, Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations, positions of ombudsman for injured workers and ombudsman for small business in Department of Consumer and Business Services and positions in Department of Transportation for providing ombudsman services. Transfers powers, duties and functions of ombudsmen to State Ombudsman.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

- 2 Relating to ombudsman services; creating new provisions; amending ORS 21.007, 90.643, 90.645, 90.650, 90.655, 90.771, 90.842, 90.846, 92.840, 195.322, 195.336, 409.185, 414.712, 417.805, 417.815, 417.825, 419B.035, 423.440, 446.543, 656.709 and 807.735 and sections 9 and 20, chapter 855, Oregon Laws 2009; and repealing ORS 182.500, 195.320, 417.810, 423.400, 423.405, 423.410, 423.415, 423.420, 423.425, 423.430, 423.435, 423.445 and 423.450.
 - Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
- 8 <u>SECTION 1.</u> As used in sections 1 to 9 of this 2017 Act, "agency" has the meaning given that term in ORS 183.310.
 - SECTION 2. (1) The office of State Ombudsman is established.
 - (2) The Governor shall appoint and fix the salary of the State Ombudsman, who holds office at the pleasure of the Governor.
 - (3) The State Ombudsman must be a person of recognized judgment, objectivity and integrity who is qualified by training and experience to analyze problems of public law, administration and policy. The State Ombudsman may not:
 - (a) Be actively involved in political party activities;
 - (b) Be a candidate for or hold other public office, whether elective or appointive; or
 - (c) Be engaged in any other full-time occupation, business or profession.
 - (4) Subject to the approval of the Governor, the State Ombudsman may employ and fix the compensation of the deputies the ombudsman considers necessary for the effective conduct of the work under the charge of the ombudsman. An employee of the ombudsman serves at the pleasure of the ombudsman.
 - SECTION 3. (1) The State Ombudsman may:
 - (a) Develop procedures for receiving and processing complaints, conducting investigations and reporting findings consistent with sections 1 to 9 of this 2017 Act;
 - (b) Examine by subpoena the records and documents of an agency or any employee of an agency;
 - (c) Enter and inspect without notice any premises of an agency;

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.

- (d) Subpoena any person to appear, to give sworn testimony or to produce documentary or other evidence that is reasonably material to an inquiry; and
- (e) Undertake, participate in or cooperate with persons and agencies in such conferences, inquiries, meetings or studies as might lead to improvements in the functioning of an agency.
- (2) All public bodies, as defined by ORS 174.109, shall cooperate with the State Ombudsman and shall promptly provide all information requested by the ombudsman that is relevant to the duties of the ombudsman. Any person that contracts with a public body, as defined by ORS 174.109, shall cooperate with the ombudsman to the extent the ombudsman is investigating matters related to the contract, and shall promptly provide all information requested by the ombudsman that is related to the contract and relevant to the duties of the ombudsman. An agency or officer of the executive department, as defined by ORS 174.112, shall consult with the Attorney General if there is any legal dispute relating to:
- (a) Whether confidential or other restricted information may be provided under this subsection to the ombudsman; or
- (b) Whether the ombudsman is seeking information that is relevant to the duties of the ombudsman.
- <u>SECTION 4.</u> (1) The State Ombudsman may investigate, on complaint or on the ombudsman's own motion, any agency action that is or is alleged to be:
 - (a) Contrary to or inconsistent with law or agency practice;
 - (b) Based on mistaken facts or irrelevant considerations;
- (c) Inadequately explained when reasons should have been revealed;
- (d) Inefficiently performed; or

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- 23 (e) Unreasonable, unfair or otherwise objectionable, even though in accordance with law.
- 24 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the ombudsman may decide not to in-25 vestigate because:
 - (a) The complainant could reasonably be expected to use a different remedy or action;
 - (b) The complaint is trivial, frivolous, vexatious or not made in good faith; or
 - (c) The complaint has been too long delayed to justify present examination.
 - **SECTION 5. The State Ombudsman:**
 - (1) Shall give priority to investigating administrative actions that are not otherwise reviewable by either administrative or judicial action;
 - (2) Shall treat confidentially all matters coming before the ombudsman and the identities of the complainants or witnesses coming before the ombudsman; and
 - (3) May not levy any fees for the submission or investigation of complaints.
 - <u>SECTION 6.</u> (1) After investigation of any agency action, the State Ombudsman shall inform the complainant and the agency of the ombudsman's recommendations and reasons if, in the ombudsman's opinion, the agency or any employee of the agency should:
 - (a) Consider the matter further;
 - (b) Modify or cancel any action;
 - (c) Alter a rule, practice or ruling;
- 41 (d) Explain more fully the administrative action in question;
- 42 (e) Rectify an omission; or
 - (f) Take any other action.
 - (2) Before recommending action by an agency, the ombudsman must inform the agency of the recommended action and afford the agency an opportunity to comment.

(3) At the request of the ombudsman, an agency shall, within the time specified by the ombudsman, inform the ombudsman about the action taken on the recommendations or the reasons for not complying with the recommendations. After a reasonable period of time, the ombudsman may issue a report to the public concerning the investigation, recommendations and action taken by the agency.

SECTION 7. (1) A person that files a complaint pursuant to sections 1 to 9 of this 2017 Act is not subject to any penalties, sanctions or restrictions because of the complaint.

- (2) The State Ombudsman and the staff of the ombudsman have the same immunities from civil and criminal liabilities as a judge of this state.
- (3) The ombudsman and the staff of the ombudsman may not be compelled to testify or produce evidence in any judicial or administrative proceeding about any matter involving the exercise of their official duties except as may be necessary to enforce sections 1 to 9 of this 2017 Act.
- <u>SECTION 8.</u> (1) Any person required to testify under section 3 of this 2017 Act shall be accorded the same privileges and immunities, receive the same fees and mileage provided for witnesses under ORS 44.415.
- (2) Fees and mileage for a witness shall be paid by warrant upon the State Treasurer upon the certificate of the State Ombudsman. No tender of witness fees or mileage in advance shall be necessary.
- (3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a representative of an agency may receive no more than actual necessary traveling expenses.
- SECTION 9. If a person intentionally obstructs or hinders the proper and lawful exercise of the powers of the State Ombudsman, or intentionally misleads or attempts to mislead the ombudsman in inquiries under sections 1 to 9 of this 2017 Act, a judge of the circuit court for the county in which the office of the ombudsman is located, upon the application of the ombudsman, shall compel obedience by proceedings for contempt in the same manner as disobedience of the requirements of a subpoena issued from the court or a refusal to testify in the court.
- <u>SECTION 10.</u> When employing deputies under section 2 of this 2017 Act, the State Ombudsman shall consider first persons whose positions are abolished by section 11 of this 2017 Act.
- SECTION 11. (1) The Office of Children's Advocate, the Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman, the position of Corrections Ombudsman, the positions in the Oregon Health Authority for providing ombudsman services required by ORS 414.712, the Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations, the positions of ombudsman for injured workers and ombudsman for small business in the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the positions in the Department of Transportation for providing ombudsman services under ORS 807.735 are abolished.
- (2) On January 1, 2018, the tenure of persons serving in the following positions and of the staff supporting the positions ceases:
 - (a) The Children's Advocate established under ORS 417.810.
 - (b) The Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman established under ORS 195.320.
 - (c) The Corrections Ombudsman established under ORS 423.400.
- (d) The positions in the Oregon Health Authority for providing ombudsman services required by ORS 414.712.

- (e) The Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations established under ORS 446.543.
- (f) The ombudsman for injured workers established in the Department of Consumer and Business Services under ORS 656.709.
- (g) The ombudsman for small business established in the Department of Consumer and Business Services under ORS 656.709.
- (h) The positions in the Department of Transportation for providing ombudsman services under ORS 807.735.
- (3) Except for the office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman established under ORS 441.403, an agency as defined in ORS 183.310 may not permit an employee of the agency to use the title "ombudsman."

SECTION 12. There are imposed upon, transferred to and vested in the State Ombudsman the duties, functions and powers of the Children's Advocate, the Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman, the Corrections Ombudsman, the Oregon Health Authority for providing ombudsman services required by ORS 414.712, the Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations, the ombudsman for injured workers and the ombudsman for small business in the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Department of Transportation for providing ombudsman services under ORS 807.735.

SECTION 13. (1) The rights and obligations of the Children's Advocate, the Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman, the Corrections Ombudsman, the Oregon Health Authority for providing ombudsman services required by ORS 414.712, the Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations, the ombudsman for injured workers and the ombudsman for small business in the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Department of Transportation for providing ombudsman services under ORS 807.735 legally incurred under contracts, leases and business transactions executed, entered into or begun before the effective date of this 2017 Act are transferred to the State Ombudsman.

- (2) For the purpose of succession of the rights and obligations transferred under this section, the State Ombudsman is considered to be a continuation of the Children's Advocate, the Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman, the Corrections Ombudsman, the Oregon Health Authority for providing ombudsman services required by ORS 414.712, the Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations, the ombudsman for injured workers and the ombudsman for small business in the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Department of Transportation for providing ombudsman services under ORS 807.735, and not a new authority. The State Ombudsman shall exercise the rights and obligations as if they had not been transferred.
- (3) All the records and property of the Children's Advocate, the Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman, the Corrections Ombudsman, the Oregon Health Authority for providing ombudsman services required by ORS 414.712, the Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations, the ombudsman for injured workers and the ombudsman for small business in the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Department of Transportation for providing ombudsman services under ORS 807.735 are transferred to the State Ombudsman.

SECTION 14. (1) The unexpended balances of amounts authorized to be expended by the Children's Advocate, the Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman, the Corrections Ombudsman, the Oregon Health Authority for providing ombudsman services required by ORS

- 414.712, the Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations, the ombudsman for injured workers and the ombudsman for small business in the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Department of Transportation for providing ombudsman services under ORS 807.735 for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, from revenues dedicated, continuously appropriated, appropriated or otherwise made available for the purpose of administering and enforcing the duties, functions and powers transferred by section 12 of this 2017 Act are transferred to and are made available to the State Ombudsman, for the purpose of administering and enforcing the duties, functions and powers transferred by section 12 of this 2017 Act.
- (2) The expenditure classifications, if any, established by Acts authorizing or limiting expenditures by the Children's Advocate, the Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman, the Corrections Ombudsman, the Oregon Health Authority for providing ombudsman services required by ORS 414.712, the Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations, the ombudsman for injured workers and the ombudsman for small business in the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Department of Transportation for providing ombudsman services under ORS 807.735 remain applicable to expenditures by the State Ombudsman under this section.
- <u>SECTION 15.</u> ORS 182.500, 195.320, 417.810, 423.400, 423.405, 423.410, 423.415, 423.420, 423.425, 423.430, 423.435, 423.445 and 423.450 are repealed.

SECTION 16. ORS 409.185 is amended to read:

- 409.185. (1) The Director of Human Services shall oversee the development of standards and procedures for assessment, investigation and enforcement of child protective services.
- (2)(a) The Department of Human Services shall take action to implement the provision of child protective services as outlined in ORS 417.705 to 417.800 and based on the recommendations in the 1992 "Oregon Child Protective Services Performance Study" published by the University of Southern Maine.
- (b) In all substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect, the role of the department is to complete a comprehensive family assessment of risk of abuse or neglect, or both, assess service needs and provide immediate protective services as necessary.
 - (c) The department shall provide remedial services needed to ensure the safety of the child.
- (d) In all cases of child abuse and neglect for which a criminal investigation is conducted, the role of law enforcement agencies is to provide a legally sound, child sensitive investigation of whether abuse or neglect or both have occurred and to gather other evidence and perform other responsibilities in accordance with interagency agreements.
- (e) The department and law enforcement agencies shall conduct the investigation and assessment concurrently, based upon the protocols and procedures of the county multidisciplinary child abuse team in each jurisdiction.
- (f) When the department and law enforcement agencies conduct a joint investigation and assessment, the activities of the department and agencies are to be clearly differentiated by the protocols of the county multidisciplinary child abuse team.
- (g) Nothing in this subsection is intended to be inconsistent with ORS 418.702, 418.747 and 418.748 and ORS chapter 419B.
- (h) In all cases of child abuse for which an investigation is conducted, the department shall provide a child's parent, guardian or caregiver with a clear written explanation of the investigation process, the court hearing process and the rights of the parent, guardian or caregiver in the abuse

- investigation and in the court proceedings related to the abuse investigation.
- (3) Upon receipt of a recommendation of the [Children's Advocate] State Ombudsman under ORS 417.815 (2)(e), the department shall implement the recommendation or give the [Children's Advocate] ombudsman written notice of an intent not to implement the recommendation.

SECTION 17. ORS 417.805 is amended to read:

417.805. The [Office of Children's Advocate] **State Ombudsman** shall maintain a state toll-free telephone line to allow the public to:

- (1) Access information and be referred to the appropriate services in matters of child abuse.
- (2) Voice concerns regarding the actions and conduct of the Department of Human Services relating to child abuse.
- (3) Have a single place to file complaints concerning the actions and conduct of the Department of Human Services relating to child abuse.

SECTION 18. ORS 417.815 is amended to read:

- 417.815. (1) The [Office of Children's Advocate] **State Ombudsman** shall be accessible to the public through the state toll-free telephone line maintained pursuant to ORS 417.805 and through other electronic and written forms of communication. The [office] **ombudsman** shall:
- (a) Disseminate information and educate the public about the detection and prevention of child abuse and about the prosecution of persons accused of child abuse;
- (b) Cooperate with [other units within] the Department of Human Services and law enforcement officials in performing duties under ORS 418.747 and 418.748 and 419B.005 to 419B.050 when the investigation involves alleged child abuse;
- (c) Provide technical assistance in the development and implementation of state and local programs that relate to child abuse;
- (d) In cooperation with the department, objectively review the department's systems for handling child abuse cases; and
- (e) Analyze data collected by the [office] **ombudsman** to discern general patterns and trends, chronic problems and other systemic difficulties in the detection, reporting, investigation, prosecution and resolution of cases of child abuse.
- (2) In addition to the duties required under subsection (1) of this section, the [office] **ombuds-man** shall:
- (a) Review any complaint regarding the department's involvement in a specific child abuse case, unless the [office] **ombudsman** determines there is an adequate remedy for the complaint;
- (b) Make any appropriate referrals of the complaint or complainant at the time the [office] ombudsman receives the complaint or during the [office's] ombudsman's review process;
- (c) Inform the complainant of the referral of the complaint or any other action taken by the [office] **ombudsman** on the complaint;
- (d) Inform the department of the [office's] ombudsman's intention to review the department's action, unless the [office] ombudsman determines that advance notice will unduly hinder the review; and
- (e) Conduct a review of the department's action when appropriate, and inform the department of the results of the review, including any recommendation the [Children's Advocate] ombudsman believes would resolve any case or any systemic issues identified in the review.
- (3) If the [office] **ombudsman** has knowledge of confidential information relating to a child involved or allegedly involved in child abuse, the [office] **ombudsman** shall keep the information confidential from public disclosure. However, the [office] **ombudsman** is subject to legal mandates

1 in ORS 418.747 and 418.748 and 419B.005 to 419B.050.

- (4) A person who files a complaint under this section or ORS 417.805 or participates in any investigation under this section may not be, because of that action:
 - (a) Subject to any penalties, sanctions or restrictions imposed by the department;
- (b) Subject to any penalties, sanctions or restrictions connected with the person's employment; or
 - (c) Denied any right, privilege or benefit.
 - (5) If deemed necessary by the [Children's Advocate] ombudsman for the purposes of carrying out the duties of the [office] ombudsman, the [office] ombudsman may conduct criminal records checks pursuant to ORS 181A.200 on a person through the Law Enforcement Data System maintained by the Department of State Police.

SECTION 19. ORS 417.825 is amended to read:

417.825. (1) In addition to any other fees provided by law, the appropriate agency:

- (a) When records of live birth are registered with the state, shall pay a \$1 fee on each record of live birth registered with the agency.
- (b) That issues certified copies of records of live birth for the state or a county, shall collect a \$1 fee on each certified copy of a record of live birth issued by the agency.
- (2) The agencies paying or collecting the fees described in subsection (1) of this section shall transfer moneys from the fees imposed by this section to the State Treasurer for deposit in the Department of Human Services Account established under ORS 409.060. The moneys deposited under this section are appropriated continuously to the Department of Human Services for use by the [Office of Children's Advocate] State Ombudsman for the administration of ORS 417.805[, 417.810] and 417.815.

SECTION 20. ORS 21.007 is amended to read:

- 21.007. It is the intent of the Legislative Assembly that funding be provided to the following entities by appropriations each biennium to fund programs, services and activities that were funded through court fees before the 2011-2013 biennium:
- (1) To the counties of this state for the purposes of funding mediation services, conciliation services and other services in domestic relations cases.
- (2) To the counties of this state for the purposes of funding the operation of law libraries or of providing law library services.
- (3) To Portland State University and the University of Oregon to fund the programs and expenses of the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government and the University of Oregon School of Law under ORS 36.100 to 36.238 and 183.502.
- (4) To the Housing and Community Services Department for the purpose of funding programs that defray the cost of rent for dwelling units for very low income households.
- (5) To the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to fund clinical legal education programs at accredited institutions of higher education that provide civil legal services to victims of domestic violence, stalking or sexual assault.
- (6) To the State Department of Agriculture for the purpose of funding mediation programs established by the department, other than individual farm credit mediations.
- (7) To the Judicial Department for the purposes of funding the appellate settlement program established under ORS 2.560.
- (8) To the Department of Human Services for [the funding of the Office of Children's Advocate] use by the State Ombudsman for the administration of ORS 417.805 and 417.815.

SECTION 21. ORS 419B.035 is amended to read:

419B.035. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 192.001 to 192.170, 192.210 to 192.505 and 192.610 to 192.810 relating to confidentiality and accessibility for public inspection of public records and public documents, reports and records compiled under the provisions of ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050 are confidential and may not be disclosed except as provided in this section. The Department of Human Services shall make the records available to:

- (a) Any law enforcement agency or a child abuse registry in any other state for the purpose of subsequent investigation of child abuse;
- (b) Any physician, physician assistant licensed under ORS 677.505 to 677.525 or nurse practitioner licensed under ORS 678.375 to 678.390, at the request of the physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner, regarding any child brought to the physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner or coming before the physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner for examination, care or treatment;
- (c) Attorneys of record for the child or child's parent or guardian in any juvenile court proceeding;
- (d) Citizen review boards established by the Judicial Department for the purpose of periodically reviewing the status of children, youths and youth offenders under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court under ORS 419B.100 and 419C.005. Citizen review boards may make such records available to participants in case reviews;
- (e) A court appointed special advocate in any juvenile court proceeding in which it is alleged that a child has been subjected to child abuse or neglect;
- (f) The Office of Child Care for certifying, registering or otherwise regulating child care facilities;
 - (g) The [Office of Children's Advocate] State Ombudsman;
- (h) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission for investigations conducted under ORS 342.176 involving any child or any student in grade 12 or below;
- (i) Any person, upon request to the Department of Human Services, if the reports or records requested regard an incident in which a child, as the result of abuse, died or suffered serious physical injury as defined in ORS 161.015. Reports or records disclosed under this paragraph must be disclosed in accordance with ORS 192.410 to 192.505; and
 - (j) The Office of Child Care for purposes of ORS 329A.030 (8)(g).
- (2)(a) When disclosing reports and records pursuant to subsection (1)(i) of this section, the Department of Human Services may exempt from disclosure the names, addresses and other identifying information about other children, witnesses, victims or other persons named in the report or record if the department determines, in written findings, that the safety or well-being of a person named in the report or record may be jeopardized by disclosure of the names, addresses or other identifying information, and if that concern outweighs the public's interest in the disclosure of that information.
- (b) If the Department of Human Services does not have a report or record of abuse regarding a child who, as the result of abuse, died or suffered serious physical injury as defined in ORS 161.015, the department may disclose that information.
- (3) The Department of Human Services may make reports and records compiled under the provisions of ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050 available to any person, administrative hearings officer, court, agency, organization or other entity when the department determines that such disclosure is necessary to administer its child welfare services and is in the best interests of the affected child, or that such disclosure is necessary to investigate, prevent or treat child abuse and neglect, to protect

children from abuse and neglect or for research when the Director of Human Services gives prior written approval. The Department of Human Services shall adopt rules setting forth the procedures by which it will make the disclosures authorized under this subsection or subsection (1) or (2) of this section. The name, address and other identifying information about the person who made the report may not be disclosed pursuant to this subsection and subsection (1) of this section.

- (4) A law enforcement agency may make reports and records compiled under the provisions of ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050 available to other law enforcement agencies, district attorneys, city attorneys with criminal prosecutorial functions and the Attorney General when the law enforcement agency determines that disclosure is necessary for the investigation or enforcement of laws relating to child abuse and neglect.
- (5) A law enforcement agency, upon completing an investigation and closing the file in a specific case relating to child abuse or neglect, shall make reports and records in the case available upon request to any law enforcement agency or community corrections agency in this state, to the Department of Corrections or to the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision for the purpose of managing and supervising offenders in custody or on probation, parole, post-prison supervision or other form of conditional or supervised release. A law enforcement agency may make reports and records compiled under the provisions of ORS 419B.010 to 419B.050 available to law enforcement, community corrections, corrections or parole agencies in an open case when the law enforcement agency determines that the disclosure will not interfere with an ongoing investigation in the case. The name, address and other identifying information about the person who made the report may not be disclosed under this subsection or subsection (6)(b) of this section.
- (6)(a) Any record made available to a law enforcement agency or community corrections agency in this state, to the Department of Corrections or the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision or to a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner in this state, as authorized by subsections (1) to (5) of this section, shall be kept confidential by the agency, department, board, physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner. Any record or report disclosed by the Department of Human Services to other persons or entities pursuant to subsections (1) and (3) of this section shall be kept confidential.
 - (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection:
- (A) A law enforcement agency, a community corrections agency, the Department of Corrections and the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision may disclose records made available to them under subsection (5) of this section to each other, to law enforcement, community corrections, corrections and parole agencies of other states and to authorized treatment providers for the purpose of managing and supervising offenders in custody or on probation, parole, post-prison supervision or other form of conditional or supervised release.
- (B) A person may disclose records made available to the person under subsection (1)(i) of this section if the records are disclosed for the purpose of advancing the public interest.
- (7) An officer or employee of the Department of Human Services or of a law enforcement agency or any person or entity to whom disclosure is made pursuant to subsections (1) to (6) of this section may not release any information not authorized by subsections (1) to (6) of this section.
- (8) As used in this section, "law enforcement agency" has the meaning given that term in ORS 181A.010.
 - (9) A person who violates subsection (6)(a) or (7) of this section commits a Class A violation.
- **SECTION 22.** ORS 195.322 is amended to read:
 - 195.322. (1) For the purpose of helping to ensure that a claim is complete, as described in ORS

195.312, the [Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman] State Ombudsman may review a proposed claim if the review is requested by a claimant that intends to file a claim under ORS 195.305 and 195.310 to 195.314.

(2) At the request of the claimant or the public entity reviewing a claim, the ombudsman may facilitate resolution of issues involving a claim under ORS 195.305 to 195.336 and sections 5 to 11, chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2007, sections 2 to 9 and 17, chapter 855, Oregon Laws 2009, and sections 2 to 7, chapter 8, Oregon Laws 2010.

SECTION 23. ORS 195.336 is amended to read:

195.336. (1) The Compensation and Conservation Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned on moneys in the Compensation and Conservation Fund shall be credited to the fund. The fund consists of moneys received by the Department of Land Conservation and Development under ORS 195.305 to 195.336 and sections 5 to 11, chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2007, sections 2 to 9, 17 and 18, chapter 855, Oregon Laws 2009, and sections 2 to 7, chapter 8, Oregon Laws 2010, and other moneys available to the department for the purpose described in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the department for the purpose of paying expenses incurred to review claims under ORS 195.305 to 195.336 and sections 5 to 11, chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2007, sections 2 to 9 and 17, chapter 855, Oregon Laws 2009, and sections 2 to 7, chapter 8, Oregon Laws 2010, and for the purpose of paying the expenses of the [Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman appointed under ORS 195.320] State Ombudsman related to facilitating resolution of issues involving a claim under ORS 195.305 to 195.336 and sections 5 to 11, chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2007, sections 2 to 9 and 17, chapter 855, Oregon Laws 2009, and sections 2 to 7, chapter 8, Oregon Laws 2010.

SECTION 24. Section 9, chapter 855, Oregon Laws 2009, is amended to read:

Sec. 9. Notwithstanding the requirement of section 8 (4), chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2007, that the Department of Land Conservation and Development review claims in the order received, upon a recommendation of the [Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman appointed under ORS 195.320] **State Ombudsman** that a hardship exists, made in the discretion of the ombudsman, the Director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development may, in the discretion of the director, advance up to 100 claims for priority processing in cases of demonstrated hardship.

SECTION 25. Section 20, chapter 855, Oregon Laws 2009, is amended to read:

Sec. 20. (1) Notwithstanding the requirement of section 8 (4), chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2007, that the Department of Land Conservation and Development review claims in the order received, upon a recommendation of the [Compensation and Conservation Ombudsman appointed under ORS 195.320] **State Ombudsman** that a hardship exists, made in the discretion of the ombudsman, the Director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development may, in the discretion of the director, advance up to 100 claims for priority processing in cases of demonstrated hardship.

- (2) For purposes of this section, demonstrated hardship includes, but is not limited to:
- (a) Threatened loss of ownership of the property;
- (b) A contractual obligation to sell the property, entered into before November 6, 2007;
- (c) Prolonged illness or medical expenses that threaten the financial status of the property owner;
 - (d) Threatened expiration of permits granted to carry out development on the property; and
- (e) A situation in which a claimant cannot continue to occupy an existing dwelling on the property and wants to occupy a new dwelling on the property.

SECTION 26. ORS 423.440 is amended to read:

423.440. (1) A letter to the [Corrections Ombudsman] State Ombudsman from a person held in custody, including by detention, incarceration and hospitalization, by the Department of Corrections shall be forwarded immediately, unopened, to the [Corrections Ombudsman] ombudsman. A letter from the [Corrections Ombudsman] ombudsman to such person shall be immediately delivered, unopened, to the person.

- (2) The ombudsman may bring suit in the Circuit Court for Marion County to enforce this section.
- [(2) No person who files a complaint pursuant to ORS 423.400 to 423.450 shall be subject to any penalties, sanctions or restrictions because of such complaint.]
- [(3) The Corrections Ombudsman and the staff of the office shall have the same immunities from civil and criminal liabilities as a judge of this state.]
- [(4) The Corrections Ombudsman and the staff of the ombudsman shall not be compelled to testify or produce evidence in any judicial or administrative proceeding with respect to any matter involving the exercise of their official duties except as may be necessary to enforce ORS 423.400 to 423.450.]

SECTION 27. ORS 414.712 is amended to read:

414.712. The Oregon Health Authority shall provide health services under ORS 414.631, 414.651 and 414.688 to 414.745 to eligible persons who are determined eligible for medical assistance as defined in ORS 414.025. The Oregon Health Authority shall also provide the following:

- (1) [Ombudsman] Services of the State Ombudsman for individuals who receive medical assistance under ORS 411.706 and for recipients who are members of coordinated care organizations. [With the concurrence of the Governor and the Oregon Health Policy Board, the Director of the Oregon Health Authority shall appoint ombudsmen and may terminate an ombudsman. Ombudsmen are under the supervision and control of the director. An] The ombudsman shall serve as a recipient's advocate whenever the recipient or a physician or other medical personnel serving the recipient is reasonably concerned about access to, quality of or limitations on the care being provided by a health care provider or a coordinated care organization. [Recipients shall be informed of the] The authority shall inform patients of the availability of [an] the ombudsman. [Ombudsmen] The ombudsman shall report to the Governor and the Oregon Health Policy Board in writing at least once each quarter. [A] The report shall include a summary of the services that the ombudsman provided during the quarter and the ombudsman's recommendations for improving ombudsman services and access to or quality of care provided to eligible persons by health care providers and coordinated care organizations.
- (2) Case management services in each health care provider organization or coordinated care organization for those individuals who receive assistance under ORS 411.706. Case managers shall be trained in and shall exhibit skills in communication with and sensitivity to the unique health care needs of individuals who receive assistance under ORS 411.706. Case managers shall be reasonably available to assist recipients served by the organization with the coordination of the recipient's health services at the reasonable request of the recipient or a physician or other medical personnel serving the recipient. Recipients shall be informed of the availability of case managers.
- (3) A mechanism, established by rule, for soliciting consumer opinions and concerns regarding accessibility to and quality of the services of each health care provider.
- (4) A choice of available medical plans and, within those plans, choice of a primary care provider.
 - (5) Due process procedures for any individual whose request for medical assistance coverage for

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any treatment or service is denied or is not acted upon with reasonable promptness. These procedures shall include an expedited process for cases in which a recipient's medical needs require swift resolution of a dispute. [An] **The State** Ombudsman [described in subsection (1) of this section] may not act as the recipient's representative during any grievance or hearing process.

SECTION 28. ORS 90.643 is amended to read:

- 90.643. (1) A manufactured dwelling park may be converted to a planned community subdivision of manufactured dwellings pursuant to ORS 92.830 to 92.845. When a manufactured dwelling park is converted pursuant to ORS 92.830 to 92.845:
- (a) Conversion does not require closure of the park pursuant to ORS 90.645 or termination of any tenancy on any space in the park or any lot in the planned community subdivision of manufactured dwellings.
- (b) After approval of the tentative plan under ORS 92.830 to 92.845, the manufactured dwelling park ceases to exist, notwithstanding the possibility that four or more lots in the planned community subdivision may be available for rent.
- (2) If a park is converted to a subdivision under ORS 92.830 to 92.845, and the landlord closes the park as a result of the conversion, ORS 90.645 applies to the closure.
- (3) If a park is converted to a subdivision under ORS 92.830 to 92.845, but the landlord does not close the park as a result of the conversion:
- (a) A tenant who does not buy the space occupied by the tenant's manufactured dwelling may terminate the tenancy and move. If the tenant terminates the tenancy after receiving the notice required by ORS 92.839 and before the expiration of the 60-day period described in ORS 92.840 (2), the landlord shall pay the tenant as provided in ORS 90.645 (1)(b).
- (b) If the landlord and the tenant continue the tenancy on the lot created in the planned community subdivision, the tenancy is governed by ORS 90.100 to 90.465, except that the following provisions apply and, in the case of a conflict, control:
- (A) ORS 90.510 (4) to (7) applies to a rental agreement and rules and regulations concerning the use and occupancy of the subdivision lot until the declarant turns over administrative control of the planned community subdivision of manufactured dwellings to a homeowners association pursuant to ORS 94.600 and 94.604 to 94.621. The landlord shall provide each tenant with a copy of the bylaws, rules and regulations of the homeowners association at least 60 days before the turnover meeting described in ORS 94.609.
 - (B) ORS 90.530 applies regarding pets.
 - (C) ORS 90.545 applies regarding the extension of a fixed term tenancy.
 - (D) ORS 90.600 (1) to (4) applies to an increase in rent.
 - (E) ORS 90.620 applies to a termination by a tenant.
- (F) ORS 90.630 applies to a termination by a landlord for cause. However, the sale of a lot in the planned community subdivision occupied by a tenant to someone other than the tenant is a good cause for termination under ORS 90.630 that the tenant cannot cure or correct and for which the landlord must give written notice of termination that states the cause of termination at least 180 days before termination.
- (G) ORS 90.632 applies to a termination of tenancy by a landlord due to the physical condition of the manufactured dwelling.
 - (H) ORS 90.634 applies to a lien for manufactured dwelling unit rent.
- (I) ORS 90.680 applies to the sale of a manufactured dwelling occupying a lot in the planned community subdivision. If the intention of the buyer of the manufactured dwelling is to leave the

- dwelling on the lot, the landlord may reject the buyer as a tenant if the buyer does not buy the lot also.
- (J) ORS 90.710 applies to a cause of action for a violation of ORS 90.510 (4) to (7), 90.630, 90.680
 or 90.765.
 - (K) ORS 90.725 applies to landlord access to a rented lot in a planned community subdivision.
 - (L) ORS 90.730 (2), (3), (4) and (7) apply to the duty of a landlord to maintain a rented lot in a habitable condition.
 - (M) ORS 90.750 applies to the right of a tenant to assemble or canvass.
- 9 (N) ORS 90.755 applies to the right of a tenant to speak on political issues and to post political signs.
 - (O) ORS 90.765 applies to retaliatory conduct by a landlord.

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- (P) ORS 90.771 applies to the confidentiality of information provided to the [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations of the Housing and Community Services Department] State Ombudsman about disputes.
- **SECTION 29.** ORS 90.645, as amended by section 2a, chapter 906, Oregon Laws 2007, is amended to read:
- 90.645. (1) If a manufactured dwelling park, or a portion of the park that includes the space for a manufactured dwelling, is to be closed and the land or leasehold converted to a use other than as a manufactured dwelling park, and the closure is not required by the exercise of eminent domain or by order of federal, state or local agencies, the landlord may terminate a month-to-month or fixed term rental agreement for a manufactured dwelling park space:
- (a) By giving the tenant not less than 365 days' notice in writing before the date designated in the notice for termination; and
- (b) By paying a tenant, for each space for which a rental agreement is terminated, one of the following amounts:
 - (A) \$5,000 if the manufactured dwelling is a single-wide dwelling;
 - (B) \$7,000 if the manufactured dwelling is a double-wide dwelling; or
 - (C) \$9,000 if the manufactured dwelling is a triple-wide or larger dwelling.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, if a landlord closes a manufactured dwelling park under this section as a result of converting the park to a subdivision under ORS 92.830 to 92.845, the landlord:
- (a) May terminate a rental agreement by giving the tenant not less than 180 days' notice in writing before the date designated in the notice for termination.
 - (b) Is not required to make a payment under subsection (1)(b) of this section to a tenant who:
- (A) Buys the space or lot on which the tenant's manufactured dwelling is located and does not move the dwelling; or
 - (B) Sells the manufactured dwelling to a person who buys the space or lot.
 - (3) A notice given under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall, at a minimum:
- 39 (a) State that the landlord is closing the park, or a portion of the park, and converting the land 40 or leasehold to a different use;
 - (b) Designate the date of closure; and
 - (c) Include the tax notice described in ORS 90.650.
 - (4) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (5) of this section, the landlord must pay a tenant the full amount required under subsection (1)(b) of this section regardless of whether the tenant relocates or abandons the manufactured dwelling. The landlord shall pay at least one-half of the

payment amount to the tenant within seven days after receiving from the tenant the notice described in subsection (5)(a) of this section. The landlord shall pay the remaining amount no later than seven days after the tenant ceases to occupy the space.

(5) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section:

- (a) A landlord is not required to make a payment to a tenant as provided in subsection (1) of this section unless the tenant gives the landlord not less than 30 days' and not more than 60 days' written notice of the date within the 365-day period on which the tenant will cease tenancy, whether by relocation or abandonment of the manufactured dwelling.
 - (b) If the manufactured dwelling is abandoned:
- (A) The landlord may condition the payment required by subsection (1) of this section upon the tenant waiving any right to receive payment under ORS 90.425 or 90.675.
- (B) The landlord may not charge the tenant to store, sell or dispose of the abandoned manufactured dwelling.
- (6)(a) A landlord may not charge a tenant any penalty, fee or unaccrued rent for moving out of the manufactured dwelling park prior to the end of the 365-day notice period.
- (b) A landlord may charge a tenant for rent for any period during which the tenant occupies the space and may deduct from the payment amount required by subsection (1) of this section any unpaid moneys owed by the tenant to the landlord.
- (7) A landlord may not increase the rent for a manufactured dwelling park space after giving a notice of termination under this section to the tenant of the space.
- (8) This section does not limit a landlord's right to terminate a tenancy for nonpayment of rent under ORS 90.394 or for other cause under ORS 90.380 (5)(b), 90.396, 90.398 or 90.632 by complying with ORS 105.105 to 105.168.
- (9) If a landlord is required to close a manufactured dwelling park by the exercise of eminent domain or by order of a federal, state or local agency, the landlord shall notify the park tenants no later than 15 days after the landlord receives notice of the exercise of eminent domain or of the agency order. The notice to the tenants shall be in writing, designate the date of closure, state the reason for the closure, describe any government relocation benefits known by the landlord to be available to the tenants and comply with any additional content requirements under ORS 90.650.
- (10) The [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations] **State Ombudsman** shall adopt rules establishing a sample form for the notice described in subsection (3) of this section.

SECTION 30. ORS 90.650 is amended to read:

- 90.650. (1) If a manufactured dwelling park or a portion of a manufactured dwelling park is closed, resulting in the termination of the rental agreement between the landlord of the park and a tenant renting space for a manufactured dwelling, whether because of the exercise of eminent domain, by order of a federal, state or local agency or as provided under ORS 90.645 (1), the landlord shall provide notice to the tenant of the tax credit provided under section 17, chapter 906, Oregon Laws 2007. The notice shall state the eligibility requirements for the credit, information on how to apply for the credit and any other information required by the [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations] State Ombudsman or the Department of Revenue by rule. The notice shall also state that the closure may allow the taxpayer to appeal the property tax assessment on the manufactured dwelling.
- (2) The [office] **ombudsman** shall adopt rules establishing a sample form for the notice described in this section and the notice described in ORS 90.645 (3).
 - (3) The department, in consultation with the [office] ombudsman, shall adopt rules establishing

- a sample form and explanation for the property tax assessment appeal.
 - (4) The [office] ombudsman may adopt rules to administer this section.
- **SECTION 31.** ORS 90.650, as amended by section 7a, chapter 906, Oregon Laws 2007, is amended to read:
 - 90.650. (1) If a manufactured dwelling park or a portion of a manufactured dwelling park is closed, resulting in the termination of the rental agreement between the landlord of the park and a tenant renting space for a manufactured dwelling, whether because of the exercise of eminent domain, by order of a federal, state or local agency or as provided under ORS 90.645 (1), the landlord shall provide notice to the tenant that the closure may allow the taxpayer to appeal the property tax assessment on the manufactured dwelling.
 - (2) The Department of Revenue, in consultation with the [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations] State Ombudsman, shall adopt rules establishing a sample form and explanation for the property tax assessment appeal.
 - (3) The [office] ombudsman may adopt rules to administer this section.

SECTION 32. ORS 90.655 is amended to read:

- 90.655. (1) A landlord that gives a notice of termination under ORS 90.645 shall, at the same time, send one copy of the notice to the [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations] **State Ombudsman** by first class mail. The landlord shall, at the same time, send a copy of the notice, both by first class mail and by certified mail with return receipt requested, for each affected manufactured dwelling, to any person:
 - (a) That is not a tenant; and

- (b)(A) That the landlord actually knows to be an owner of the manufactured dwelling; or
- (B) That has a lien recorded in the title or ownership document records for the manufactured dwelling.
- (2) A landlord that terminates rental agreements for manufactured dwelling park spaces under ORS 90.645 shall, no later than 60 days after the manufactured dwelling park or portion of the park closes, report to the [office] ombudsman:
 - (a) The number of dwelling unit owners who moved their dwelling units out of the park; and
 - (b) The number of dwelling unit owners who abandoned their dwelling units at the park.

SECTION 33. ORS 90.771 is amended to read:

- 90.771. (1) In order to foster the role of the [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations] State Ombudsman in mediating and resolving disputes between landlords and tenants of manufactured dwelling and floating home facilities, the Housing and Community Services Department shall establish procedures to maintain the confidentiality of information received by the [office] ombudsman pertaining to individual landlords and tenants of facilities and to landlord-tenant disputes. The procedures must comply with the provisions of this section.
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, the department shall treat as confidential and not disclose:
- (a) The identity of a landlord, tenant or complainant involved in a dispute or of a person who provides information to the department in response to a department investigation of a dispute;
- (b) Information provided to the department by a landlord, tenant, complainant or other person relating to a dispute; or
 - (c) Information discovered by the department in investigating a dispute.
 - (3) The department may disclose:
 - (a) Information described in subsection (2) of this section to a state agency; and

- (b) Information described in subsection (2) of this section if the landlord, tenant, complainant or other person who provided the information being disclosed, or the legal representative thereof, consents orally or in writing to the disclosure and specifies to whom the disclosure may be made. Only the landlord, tenant, complainant or other person who provided the information to the department may authorize or deny the disclosure of the information.
- (4) This section does not prohibit the department from compiling and disclosing examples and statistics that demonstrate information such as the type of dispute, frequency of occurrence and geographical area where the dispute occurred if the identity of the landlord, tenant, complainant and other persons are protected.

SECTION 34. ORS 90.842 is amended to read:

- 90.842. (1) An owner of a manufactured dwelling park shall give written notice of the owner's interest in selling the park before the owner markets the park for sale or when the owner receives an offer to purchase that the owner intends to consider, whichever occurs first.
 - (2) The owner shall give the notice required by subsection (1) of this section to:
 - (a) All tenants of the park; or

- (b) A tenants committee, if there is an existing committee of tenants formed for purposes including the purchase of the park and with which the owner has met in the 12-month period immediately before delivery of the notice.
- (3) The owner shall also give the notice required by subsection (1) of this section to the [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations of the Housing and Community Services Department] State Ombudsman.
 - (4) The notice must include the following:
 - (a) The owner is considering selling the park.
- (b) The tenants, through a tenants committee, have an opportunity to compete to purchase the park.
- (c) In order to compete to purchase the park, within 10 days after delivery of the notice, the tenants must form or identify a single tenants committee for the purpose of purchasing the park and notify the owner in writing of:
 - (A) The tenants' interest in competing to purchase the park; and
- (B) The name and contact information of the representative of the tenants committee with whom the owner may communicate about the purchase.
- (d) The representative of the tenants committee may request financial information described in ORS 90.844 (2) from the owner within the 10-day period.
- (e) Information about purchasing a manufactured dwelling park is available from the [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations of the Housing and Community Services Department] State Ombudsman.

SECTION 35. ORS 90.846 is amended to read:

- 90.846. (1) During the process described in ORS 90.842 to 90.850, the parties shall act in a commercially reasonable manner.
- (2) Except as provided in ORS 90.848, before selling a manufactured dwelling park to an entity that is not formed by or associated with the tenants, the owner of the park must give the notice required by ORS 90.842 and comply with the requirements of ORS 90.844.
- (3) A minor error in providing the notice required by ORS 90.842 or in providing the financial information required by ORS 90.844 does not prevent the owner from selling the park to an entity that is not formed by or associated with the tenants and does not cause the owner to be liable to

1 the tenants for damages or a penalty.

- (4) During the process described in ORS 90.842 to 90.850, the owner may seek, or negotiate with, potential purchasers other than the tenants or an entity formed by or associated with the tenants.
- (5) If the owner does not comply with requirements of this section and ORS 90.842 and 90.844, in a substantial way that prevents the tenants from competing to purchase the park, the tenants may:
- (a) Obtain injunctive relief to prevent a sale or transfer to an entity that is not formed by or associated with the tenants when the owner has not caused an affidavit to be recorded before the sale or transfer pursuant to ORS 90.850.
- (b) Recover actual damages or twice the rent from the owner for each tenant, whichever is greater.
- (6) If a tenant misuses or discloses, in a substantial way, confidential information in violation of a confidentiality agreement described in ORS 90.844, the owner may recover actual damages from the tenant.
- (7) The [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations of the Housing and Community Services Department] State Ombudsman shall prepare and make available information for tenants about purchasing a manufactured dwelling park.

SECTION 36. ORS 92.840 is amended to read:

- 92.840. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 92.016 (1), prior to the approval of a tentative plan, the declarant may negotiate to sell a lot for which approval is required under ORS 92.830 to 92.845.
- (2) Prior to the sale of a lot, the declarant shall offer to sell the lot to the tenant who occupies the lot. The offer required under this subsection:
- (a) Terminates 60 days after receipt of the offer by the tenant or upon written rejection of the offer, whichever occurs first; and
 - (b) Does not constitute a notice of termination of the tenancy.
- (3) For 60 days after termination of the offer required under subsection (2) of this section, the declarant may not sell the lot to a person other than the tenant at a price or on terms that are more favorable to the purchaser than the price or terms that were offered to the tenant.
- (4) After the manufactured dwelling park or mobile home park has been submitted for subdivision under ORS 92.830 to 92.845 and until a lot is offered for sale in accordance with subsection (2) of this section, the declarant shall notify a prospective tenant, in writing, prior to the commencement of the tenancy, that the park has been submitted for subdivision and that the tenant is entitled to receive an offer to purchase the lot under subsection (2) of this section.
- (5) Prior to the sale of a lot in a subdivision created by conversion of the park, the declarant must provide the tenant or other potential purchaser of the lot with information about the homeowners association formed by the declarant as required by ORS 94.625. The information must, at a minimum, include the association name and type and any rights set forth in the declaration required by ORS 94.580.
- (6) The declarant may not begin improvements or rehabilitation to the lot during the period described in the landlord's notice of termination under ORS 90.645 without the permission of the tenant.
- (7) The declarant may begin improvements or rehabilitation to the common property as defined in the declaration during the period described in the landlord's notice of termination under ORS 90.645.

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- (8) If the tenant does not buy the lot occupied by the tenant's manufactured dwelling or mobile home, the declarant and the tenant may continue the tenancy on the lot after approval of the tentative plan. The rights and responsibilities of tenants who continue their tenancy on the lot in the planned community subdivision of manufactured dwellings are set out in ORS 90.643.
- (9) After approval of the tentative plan and the period provided by subsection (2)(a) of this section, the declarant shall promptly:
- (a) Notify the [Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations of the Housing and Community Services Department] State Ombudsman of the approval.
- (b) Provide the [office] **ombudsman** with a street address for each lot in the planned community subdivision of manufactured dwellings that remains available for rental use.
- (10) Nothing in this section prevents the declarant from terminating a tenancy in the park in compliance with ORS 90.630, 90.632 and 90.645. However, the declarant shall make the offer required under subsection (2) of this section to a tenant whose tenancy is terminated after approval of the tentative plan unless the termination is for cause under ORS 90.392, 90.394, 90.396, 90.630 (1) or (8) or 90.632.

SECTION 37. ORS 446.543 is amended to read:

- 446.543. [(1) An Office of Manufactured Dwelling Park Community Relations is established in the Housing and Community Services Department.]
- [(2)] (1) The [Director of the Housing and Community Services Department] State Ombudsman shall[, through the use of office personnel or by other means]:
- (a) Undertake, participate in or cooperate with persons and agencies in such conferences, inquiries, meetings or studies as might lead to improvements in manufactured dwelling park landlord and tenant relationships;
- (b) Develop and implement a centralized resource referral program for tenants and landlords to encourage the voluntary resolution of disputes;
- (c) Maintain a current list of manufactured dwelling parks in the state, indicating the total number of spaces;
- (d) Not be directly affiliated, currently or previously, in any way with a manufactured dwelling park within the preceding two years; and
- (e) Take other actions or perform such other duties as the [director] ombudsman deems necessary or appropriate, including but not limited to coordinating or conducting tenant resource fairs, providing tenant counseling and service referrals related to park closures and providing outreach services to educate tenants regarding tenant rights and responsibilities and the availability of services.
 - [(3)] (2) The [office] ombudsman shall adopt rules to administer ORS 90.645 and 90.655.

SECTION 38. ORS 656.709 is amended to read:

- 656.709. [(1)(a) The Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services, with the concurrence of the Governor, shall appoint an ombudsman for injured workers. The ombudsman is under the supervision and control of the director and, with the concurrence of the Governor, the director may terminate the ombudsman.]
 - [(b)] (1) The [ombudsman for injured workers] State Ombudsman shall:
- [(A)] (a) Act as an advocate for injured workers by accepting, investigating and attempting to resolve complaints concerning matters related to workers' compensation;
- [(B)] (b) Provide information to injured workers to enable them to protect their rights in the workers' compensation system; and

[(C)] (c) Report to the Governor in writing at least once each quarter. A report shall include a summary of the services that the ombudsman provided during the quarter and the ombudsman's recommendations for improving ombudsman services and for protecting workers' rights in the workers' compensation system.

[(2)(a) The Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services, with the concurrence of the Governor, shall appoint an ombudsman for small business. The ombudsman is under the supervision and control of the director and, with the concurrence of the Governor, the director may terminate the ombudsman.]

- [(b)] (2) The [ombudsman for small business] State Ombudsman shall:
- [(A)] (a) Provide information and assistance to small businesses with regard to workers' compensation insurance and claims processing matters; and
- [(B)] (b) Report to the Governor in writing at least once each quarter. A report shall include a summary of the services that the ombudsman provided during the quarter and the ombudsman's recommendations for improving ombudsman services and for providing information and assistance to small businesses with regard to workers' compensation insurance and claims processing matters.

SECTION 39. ORS 807.735 is amended to read:

807.735. (1) [Using existing resources, the Department of Transportation] The State Ombudsman shall provide ombudsman services to applicants for a driver license, a driver permit or an identification card. [An] The ombudsman shall assist applicants who are otherwise qualified for issuance, renewal or replacement of a driver license, a driver permit or an identification card but who are unable to produce the documentation required by the Department of Transportation under ORS 807.021 and 807.730.

(2) The [department] **ombudsman** may not provide ombudsman services to an applicant unless the applicant certifies in writing that the applicant is, to the best of the applicant's knowledge, legally present in the United States.