A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to public assistance; and declaring an emergency.

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

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

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

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

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

(c) The Governor shall appoint:

(A) One nonvoting member who is an employee of the Department of Human Services with management responsibilities in the temporary assistance for needy families program; and

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

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

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

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

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

(7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.
(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

(9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

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

(11) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to human services no later than September 15, 2019.

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

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

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

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2018 Act is repealed on December 31, 2019.

SECTION 3. This 2018 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2018 Act takes effect on its passage.