

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Requires Housing and Community Services Department to study long-term rent assistance and to report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly no later than October 1, 2020.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to housing; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Housing and Community Services Department shall conduct a study on the costs and benefits of providing long-term rental assistance to Oregonians who, due to severe rent burden, are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.

(2) The study must include estimates of costs of providing long-term rental assistance across different geographic regions and to serve different populations, including households with:

(a) Children five years of age or younger;

(b) Children at least six years of age and not older than 17 years of age;

(c) Unaccompanied homeless youths, as defined in ORS 343.035;

(d) Wards who have aged out of permanent foster care, shelter care or substitute care, as defined in ORS 419A.004;

(e) Individuals who have been victims of domestic violence, as defined in ORS 135.230, 181A.355 or 411.117, or who are at risk of domestic violence;

(f) Seniors and persons with disabilities; and

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 **(g) Veterans.**

2 **(3) The study must include an exploration of opportunities for ad-**
3 **ministrative efficiencies that can be gained by looking at best prac-**
4 **tices, including local, state and federal long-term rental assistance**
5 **programs and by consulting with urban and rural local housing au-**
6 **thorities, as defined in ORS 456.375.**

7 **(4) No later than October 1, 2020, the department shall provide a**
8 **report on the findings of the study to an appropriate interim commit-**
9 **tee of the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided under ORS**
10 **192.245.**

11 **SECTION 2.** **In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-**
12 **ation, there is appropriated to the Housing and Community Services**
13 **Department, for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, out of the General**
14 **Fund, the amount of \$125,000, to conduct the study required under**
15 **section 1 of this 2020 Act.**

16 **SECTION 3.** **This 2020 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-**
17 **ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-**
18 **clared to exist, and this 2020 Act takes effect on its passage.**