

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 5503

Commission for the Blind

SB 5503 is the budget bill for the Oregon Commission for the Blind. The agency's programs are focused on two main objectives: employment and independence for Oregonians who are blind or visually impaired. The agency provides employment and technology services, training, supported employment programs, and small business opportunities.

The budget recommended by the Human Services Subcommittee is \$24.4 million total funds, 68 positions, and 66.00 FTE. The recommended budget includes a one-time appropriation of \$2.4 million and one limited duration project manager position for the agency to replace an aging vocational rehabilitation case management system. The system is mission critical to the agency's operations because it is used to satisfy federal reporting requirements and must be replaced as the current system software vendor has notified the agency that it will discontinue software maintenance and support as of December 31, 2020.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends SB 5503 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.