



Open Government Impact Statement

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly
2019 Regular Session

Measure: HB 3254

Only impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official

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SUMMARY

Establishes Office of Oregon Ombudsmen to provide administrative services and support to Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman, Office of the Residential Facilities Ombudsman, Office of the Foster Parent Ombudsman, Office of the Foster Child Ombudsman and Office of the Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator. Specifies duties of administrator of Office of Oregon Ombudsmen.

Establishes and specifies duties and powers of Foster Parent Ombudsman and Foster Child Ombudsman. Requires 24-hour hotline telephone number for foster parents to make complaints. Requires Department of Human Services to notify foster parents and foster children of availability of Foster Child Ombudsman and Foster Parent Ombudsman to investigate complaints.

Modifies duties and powers of Long Term Care Ombudsman, Residential Facilities Ombudsman and Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator. Gives ombudsmen access to records necessary for investigating complaints, subject to conditions.

Establishes advisory committees for ombudsman offices and Office of the Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

OPEN GOVERNMENT IMPACT

Legislative Counsel has not adopted standards for drafting measures that establish exemptions from disclosure of public records.

This measure exempts from public disclosure: the identity of any foster child, or of an individual acting on behalf of a foster child, in the possession of the Foster Child Ombudsman; the identity of any foster parent, or of an individual acting on behalf of a foster parent, in the possession of the Foster Parent Ombudsman; and the identity of a resident in the possession of the Residential Facilities Ombudsman.

If those public records that could be subject to public disclosure were instead subject to mandatory disclosure under public records law, the public would be able to receive the names of foster children or their representatives, foster parents or their representatives and residents of residential facilities for individuals with developmental disabilities for whom their respective ombudsman is investigating or has investigated a complaint.