House Bill 2274

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession filed (at the request of Governor Kate Brown for Department of State Lands)

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.

Shortens length of time until unpaid wages become abandoned to one year.
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to unpaid wages unclaimed by owner; amending ORS 98.334 and 98.336; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 98.334 is amended to read:

98.334. (1) As used in this section, “wages” means wages, commissions, bonuses or reimbursements to which an employee is entitled, or other compensation for personal services, other than amounts held in a payroll card.

(2) Unpaid wages, including wages represented by unpresented payroll checks, owing in the ordinary course of the holder’s business [which] that remain unclaimed by the owner for more than [three years] one year after becoming payable are presumed abandoned.

SECTION 2. ORS 98.336 is amended to read:

98.336. (1) Intangible property, including uncashed warrants [and wages represented by unpresented payroll checks], held for the owner by a court, state or other government, governmental subdivision or agency, public corporation[,] or public authority[,] that [has remained] remains unclaimed by the owner for more than two years is presumed abandoned.

(2) Tangible property held for the owner by a court, state or other government, governmental subdivision or agency, law enforcement agency, public corporation or public authority that [has remained] remains unclaimed by the owner for more than two years is presumed abandoned.

SECTION 3. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect on its passage.

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.