

House Bill 2412

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Business and Labor for Northwest Workers Justice Project)

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**.

Creates Community Outreach and Labor Education Account in State Treasury.

Requires Commissioner of Bureau of Labor and Industries to charge respondent on wage claim fee on moneys collected on wage claim. Requires that moneys collected as fee be deposited in Community Outreach and Labor Education Account for purpose of awarding grants to nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to workers regarding employee rights.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to employee rights in the workplace; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) In addition to any other fee authorized by law, the Commissioner of the**
5 **Bureau of Labor and Industries shall charge a respondent on a wage claim a fee of 20 percent**
6 **of the moneys collected on civil judgments pursuant to ORS 652.330, or as a result of ad-**
7 **ministrative proceedings under ORS 652.332.**

8 **(2) Notwithstanding ORS 652.400, the moneys collected from the fee under subsection (1)**
9 **of this section shall be paid into the State Treasury and deposited in the Community Out-**
10 **reach and Labor Education Account established under section 2 of this 2019 Act.**

11 **SECTION 2. The Community Outreach and Labor Education Account is established in the**
12 **State Treasury as special trust account, separate and distinct from the General Fund. In-**
13 **terest earned by the account shall be credited to the account. All moneys in the Community**
14 **Outreach and Labor Education Account are continuously appropriated to the Bureau of La-**
15 **bor and Industries for the purpose of awarding grants in accordance with section 3 of this**
16 **2019 Act.**

17 **SECTION 3. (1) The Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries shall, from the**
18 **funds appropriated to the Bureau of Labor and Industries under section 2 of this 2019 Act,**
19 **award grants to nonprofit organizations that provide outreach, education and technical as-**
20 **sistance to Oregon workers pertaining to employee rights in the workplace.**

21 **(2) Grants awarded under subsection (1) of this section may be used for the following**
22 **activities:**

23 **(a) Assisting employees in the enforcement of employee rights;**

24 **(b) Outreach;**

25 **(c) Community-based education events;**

26 **(d) Producing training materials;**

27 **(e) Counseling;**

28 **(f) Research; 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) Referral services.

2 (3) When awarding grants, the commissioner shall give priority to nonprofit organiza-
3 tions that administer projects that provide services to vulnerable workers including, but not
4 limited to:

5 (a) Low-wage workers;

6 (b) Immigrant and refugee workers;

7 (c) Lesbian, gay, bisexual, nonbinary or transgender individuals;

8 (d) Injured or disabled workers; and

9 (e) Workers who are under 20 years of age.

10 SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
11 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect
12 on its passage.

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