A-Engrossed

House Bill 3164

Ordered by the House April 15
Including House Amendments dated April 15

Sponsored by Representative SANCHEZ, Senator DEMBROW, Representative WILLIAMSON; Senator FREDERICK

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.

Directs office of public defense services established by Public Defense Services Commission to distribute moneys to Metropolitan Public Defender Services for establishment and administration of pilot program according to specifications, collection of certain program data and submission of data to [commission] office. Directs [commission] office to review data and to report on results of pilot program to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to judiciary on or before September 15, 2021.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Public Defense Services Commission for pilot program.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to civil legal services for persons charged with crimes; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The office of public defense services established under ORS 151.216 shall distribute the moneys described in section 2 of this 2019 Act to Metropolitan Public Defender Services for the following purposes:

(a) Establishing and administering a two-year pilot program in Multnomah County and in one rural county with the purpose of providing civil legal services to persons charged with criminal offenses. The provision of civil legal services must include but is not limited to assistance with issues related to housing, family law, public benefits, financial obligations, consumer debt and expungement.

(b) Collecting data, and submitting the data to the office of public defense services concerning the number of participants in the pilot program who, as a result of participation:

(A) Experienced increased financial stability.

(B) Experienced increased housing stability.

(C) Were able to obtain public benefits.

(D) Were able to resolve debt.

(E) Were able to expunge or set aside records of arrest, citation or conviction.

(F) Engaged in planning for family security.

(G) Experienced increased stability or exhibited better behavior while incarcerated, in comparison to similarly situated inmates who did not participate in the pilot program.

(2) The office of public defense services shall assist in the collection of the data concerning the pilot program described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Upon receipt of the data concerning the pilot program described in subsection (1) of
this section, the office of public defense services shall review the data, prepare a report and
submit the report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the ju-
diciary in the manner provided under ORS 192.245 on or before September 15, 2021.

SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
ated to the Public Defense Services Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out
of the General Fund, the amount of $550,000, to be distributed to the office of public defense
services established under ORS 151.216 to carry out the provisions of section 1 of this 2019
Act.

SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on January 2, 2022.

SECTION 4. 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.