

HB 4002 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS) to conduct a study on the costs and benefits of providing long-term rental assistance to Oregonians who are experiencing a severe rent burden, at risk of being homeless, or are homeless. Mandates an exploration of opportunities for administrative efficiencies, consultation with urban and rural local housing authorities, and that data be produced on specific populations. Requires report to be submitted to the interim committee of the Legislative Assembly by October 1, 2020. Appropriates \$125,000 from the General Fund to OHCS. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 02/05/2020

Replaces measure. Directs the Portland State University Homelessness Research and Action Collaborative to conduct a study on the costs and benefits of providing long-term rental assistance to Oregonians who are experiencing severe rent burden, are at risk of being homeless, or are homeless. Requires exploration of various administrative and policy design choices, cost estimates for serving different regions and specific populations, a review of best practices and existing research regarding rental assistance outcomes. Mandates the study consider administrative program design and delivery, implications of long-term rental assistance that is project-based, tenant-based, or both, the need for non-rental assistance funds, and similar programs in other states. Requires consultation with tenant organizations and consideration of the disparate impact of severe rent burden, homelessness risk and homelessness on specific communities. Report due to interim committee of the legislative assembly by Dec. 1, 2020. Appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) is the state's housing finance agency and provides financial and programmatic support to create and preserve quality, affordable housing opportunities for low- to moderate-income Oregonians.