

# D R A F T

## SUMMARY

Directs Department of Human Services to adopt by rule grant program to provide funding to culturally specific and responsive tribal governments and under-resourced rural community service organizations to conduct outreach regarding federal earned income tax credits and other tax benefits and to provide tax navigation and preparation services to low-income Oregonians.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to services for low-income individuals; and prescribing an effective  
3 date.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Human Services shall adopt by**  
6 **rule a grant program to provide funding for the purposes described in**  
7 **subsections (2) and (3) of this section to culturally specific and re-**  
8 **sponsive tribal governments and under-resourced rural community**  
9 **service organizations.**

10 **(2) Grants must be used to help low-income residents of this state**  
11 **by:**

12 **(a) Providing education about federal earned income tax credits and**  
13 **other tax benefits available to low-income individuals;**

14 **(b) Assisting residents in navigating tax systems; and**

15 **(c) Filing income tax returns.**

16 **(3) The grants must be used to:**

17 **(a) Strengthen the existing network of culturally specific and re-**  
18 **sponsive tax preparation organizations;**

1 (b) Expand organizational capacity in geographically diverse areas  
2 of this state to improve access to tax navigation and tax preparation  
3 services;

4 (c) Improve the recruitment and retention of qualified tax  
5 preparers;

6 (d) Strengthen the technology resources and training systems  
7 available to tax preparers and volunteers; or

8 (e) Strengthen taxpayer outreach, education and connections to  
9 communities by culturally specific and responsive tax navigation and  
10 preparation service providers.

11 (4) The department shall appoint a committee to advise the de-  
12 partment in the adoption of rules for the program. The advisory  
13 committee must include one or more individuals who:

14 (a) Are low-income.

15 (b) Are Black.

16 (c) Are Indigenous.

17 (d) Are people of color.

18 (e) Are non-English-speaking.

19 (f) Have a disability.

20 (g) Are 65 years of age or older.

21 SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-  
22 ation, there is appropriated to the Department of Human Services, for  
23 the biennium ending June 30, 2023, out of the General Fund, the  
24 amount of \$4,000,000, which may be expended to carry out the pro-  
25 visions of section 1 of this 2022 Act.

26 SECTION 3. This 2022 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date  
27 on which the 2022 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative As-  
28 sembly adjourns sine die.