

Enrolled
House Bill 2163

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of Governor Kate Brown for Office of the Governor)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to rental assistance; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 2 and 3 of this 2021 Act are added to and made a part of ORS chapter 458.

SECTION 2. (1) **The Housing and Community Services Department shall implement a long-term rental assistance program that is available to individuals who are younger than 25 years of age and who are, or have recently been:**

- (a) Homeless;
- (b) In any substitute care program, as defined in ORS 326.575;
- (c) Incarcerated or detained in a correctional facility or detention facility as defined in ORS 419A.004; or
- (d) Residing in a facility for dependency treatment or rehabilitation or for mental health treatment.

(2) **The department shall choose three or four regions in which to operate the program, which must include at least one urban area, one rural area and one coastal area.**

(3) **In designing the program, the department shall consult with:**

- (a) **The Oregon Housing Stability Council;**
- (b) **The Department of Human Services, including department staff operating programs or services for eligible foster children or former foster children and the department’s advisory committee on runaway and homeless youth under ORS 417.799 (6);**
- (c) **Housing authorities;**
- (d) **Community-based social service providers serving the population of eligible recipients of the program;**
- (e) **Culturally specific youth providers; and**
- (f) **The Community Action Partnership of Oregon.**

(4) **The Housing and Community Services Department shall collect data on program participants receiving rental assistance, including:**

- (a) **Demographic data, including race.**
- (b) **Program subsidy amounts.**
- (c) **Length of tenancies and instances of rehousing or homelessness.**
- (d) **Types of housing, including roommates or family living situations.**

(e) **Access to, and utilization of, other support systems, including education, workforce training, health insurance and primary care providers.**

(5) The department may contract with housing authorities, community action agencies or community-based social service and housing providers to deliver rental assistance and to collect and report data under the program.

SECTION 3. (1) There is established the Long-Term Rent Assistance Fund, separate and distinct from the General Fund.

(2) The Long-Term Rent Assistance Fund shall consist of moneys credited to the fund from moneys appropriated or transferred to the fund by the Legislative Assembly or received from the federal government or other grants, gifts or donations from any source.

(3) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Housing and Community Services Department to carry out the duties under section 2 of this 2021 Act.

SECTION 4. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Housing and Community Services Department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$4,500,000, for deposit into the Long-Term Rent Assistance Fund under section 3 of this 2021 Act.

SECTION 5. The Housing and Community Services Department shall report to the Oregon Housing Stability Council on or before September 15, 2022, and on or before September 15, 2023, on the outcome of and data from the program established under section 2 of this 2021 Act.

SECTION 6. Section 5 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2024.

SECTION 7. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect July 1, 2021.

Passed by House June 21, 2021

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate June 24, 2021

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2021

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2021

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2021

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Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State