Senate Bill 555

Sponsored by Senator GELSER, Representative MARSH (Presession filed.)

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.

Requires Department of Human Services to contract with nonprofit organization to implement and administer program to assist recipients of supplemental nutrition assistance in purchasing locally grown fruits and vegetables from farmers’ markets, farm share sites and retail outlets that participate in program.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department to be distributed to nonprofit organization that has contracted with department to implement and administer program and match amounts that recipient spends on certain eligible foods.

Sunsets January 2, 2024.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to program providing financial assistance to recipients who receive supplemental nutrition assistance; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Department of Human Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, out of the General Fund, the amount of $4,000,000, which shall be expended for the purposes of implementing section 2 of this 2021 Act.

SECTION 2. (1)(a) The Department of Human Services shall contract with a nonprofit organization to implement and administer a program to assist recipients who are eligible to receive supplemental nutrition assistance provided by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program under ORS 411.806 to 411.845 in purchasing locally grown fruits and vegetables from farmers’ markets, farm share sites and retail food outlets that participate in the program.

(b) The department shall contract with a nonprofit organization that provides low-income populations with greater access to fresh, locally grown foods and that has established relationships with farmers’ markets, farm share sites and retail food outlets that participate in the program.

(2) The department shall distribute to the nonprofit organization that has contracted with the department under this section the funds appropriated under section 1 of this 2021 Act to:

(a) Carry out the implementation and administration of the program; and

(b) Match the amounts that a recipient spends on foods that are eligible for supplemental nutrition assistance.

(3)(a) The nonprofit organization that has contracted with the department under this section shall review the outcomes of the program, including the program’s impact on the purchase of locally grown fruits and vegetables by recipients of assistance under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.
(b) The nonprofit organization shall prepare and submit to the department a report containing the organization's findings no later than December 31, 2023. The department shall make the report available to the public on the department's website.

SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2024.

SECTION 4. 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 on its passage.