

# Senate Bill 407

Sponsored by Senator PROZANSKI (Pre-session 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**.

Establishes Outdoor Therapy Grant Program within State Parks and Recreation Department for purpose of awarding grants to enhance outdoor environmental, ecological, agricultural or other natural resource-based therapy programs serving residents of this state.

Establishes Outdoor Therapy Grant Program Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to department for purposes of grant program.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to outdoor therapy programs; and prescribing an effective date.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) There is established in the State Parks and Recreation Department the**  
5 **Outdoor Therapy Grant Program, to be administered by the Office of Outdoor Recreation,**  
6 **for the purpose of providing grants on an annual, competitive basis from the Outdoor Ther-**  
7 **apy Grant Program Fund established under section 2 of this 2021 Act to be used to enhance**  
8 **outdoor environmental, ecological, agricultural and other natural resource-based therapy**  
9 **programs in this state.**

10 **(2) The Office of Outdoor Recreation shall develop an application form that eligible ap-**  
11 **plicants must complete and submit to be considered for receipt of a grant under this section.**

12 **(3)(a) The office shall develop criteria to determine eligibility of grant applicants and**  
13 **proposed projects, taking into consideration the following:**

14 **(A) Utilization of public-private partnerships;**

15 **(B) Innovation in increasing the availability and use of outdoor recreation facilities;**

16 **(C) Consideration for the economics of installation or implementation to provide the**  
17 **greatest cost-benefit ratio;**

18 **(D) Commitment of matching and in-kind resources;**

19 **(E) Utilization of state parks and other natural resource venues and personnel as a re-**  
20 **source;**

21 **(F) Contributions to healthy lifestyles through outdoor recreation and sound nutrition;**

22 **(G) Contributions to the statewide network of facilities or programs;**

23 **(H) Encouragement of community involvement;**

24 **(I) Encouragement of sound environmental practices;**

25 **(J) Maximization of the number of participants who can be served;**

26 **(K) Increased opportunities to experience the out-of-doors directly and to understand**  
27 **nature and the natural world;**

28 **(L) Ongoing program evaluations, assessments and reporting of effectiveness;**

29 **(M) Utilization of research-based, effective environmental, ecological, agricultural or**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 other natural resource-based therapy; and

2 (N) Demonstration of innovative approaches to outdoor-based therapy.

3 (b) The criteria may prioritize programs that:

4 (A) Utilize veterans for at least 50 percent of program implementation or administration;

5 (B) Will commit matching and in-kind resources;

6 (C) Create public-private partnerships;

7 (D) Maximize the number of participants who can be served, particularly participants  
8 who are veterans or who are recovering from substance abuse or physical or mental trauma;

9 (E) Make use of research-based, effective environmental, ecological, agricultural or other  
10 natural resource-based therapy;

11 (F) Provide residents of this state with opportunities to directly experience and under-  
12 stand nature and the natural world; and

13 (G) Include ongoing program evaluation, assessment and reporting of program's effec-  
14 tiveness.

15 (c) Activities eligible for funding under this section include, but are not limited to, those  
16 that assist veterans, people recovering from substance abuse and people recovering from  
17 physical or mental trauma, and that incorporate outdoor recreation, outdoor environmental  
18 studies, agriculture, conservation, ecology, stewardship or restoration or other natural  
19 resource-based activities.

20 (d) The following activities are ineligible for funding under this section:

21 (A) Activities that may be perceived to lobby or advocate for political purposes;

22 (B) Activities that are not in compliance with local, state and federal laws; and

23 (C) Organized youth sports such as a community league or school team.

24 (4) The office shall provide technical assistance and project overview and monitoring for  
25 successful grant recipients.

26 (5) The office may, as a condition to receiving grant funding, require matching funds in  
27 an amount to be determined by the office.

28 (6) All amounts awarded as grants must be used by recipients, for the approved purposes  
29 set forth in successful grant applications, within three years of receipt of the funds. Any  
30 funds not expended within that time period must be returned to the office for deposit in the  
31 Outdoor Therapy Grant Program Fund.

32 (7) The department, in consultation with the office, shall adopt rules to implement the  
33 grant program and the provisions of this section.

34 **SECTION 2.** (1) The Outdoor Therapy Grant Program Fund is established in the State  
35 Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund.

36 (2) Interest earned by the Outdoor Therapy Grant Program Fund must be credited to the  
37 fund.

38 (3) Moneys in the Outdoor Therapy Grant Program Fund consist of:

39 (a) Amounts donated to the fund;

40 (b) Amounts appropriated or otherwise transferred to the fund by the Legislative As-  
41 sembly;

42 (c) Amounts deposited in the fund;

43 (d) Investment earnings received on moneys in the fund;

44 (e) Unused grant moneys returned pursuant to section 1 (6) of this 2021 Act; and

45 (f) Other amounts deposited in the fund from any source.

1       **(4) The moneys in the Outdoor Therapy Grant Program Fund are continuously appropri-**  
2 **ated to the State Parks and Recreation Department for the purposes of carrying out the**  
3 **provisions of section 1 of this 2021 Act.**

4       **SECTION 3.** **(1) Sections 1 and 2 of this 2021 Act become operative on January 2, 2022.**

5       **(2) The State Parks and Recreation Department and the Office of Outdoor Recreation**  
6 **may take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that**  
7 **is necessary for the department or office to exercise, on and after the operative date speci-**  
8 **fied in subsection (1) of this section, all of the functions and powers conferred on the de-**  
9 **partment and office by sections 1 and 2 of this 2021 Act.**

10       **SECTION 4.** **This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021**  
11 **regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

12