

Senate Bill 677

Sponsored by Senator HEARD (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**.

Authorizes Director of Employment Department to enter into contracts with third parties to process claims for unemployment insurance benefits when there is unforeseeable increase due to public health emergency.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to unemployment insurance; amending ORS 657.610; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 657.610 is amended to read:

5 657.610. The Director of the Employment Department may:

6 (1) For purposes of administration and control, and with the approval of the Governor, organize
7 and reorganize the department in whatever manner the director considers appropriate to carry out
8 the duties, functions and powers of the department.

9 (2) Appoint all subordinate officers and employees of the department, whether classified or un-
10 classified, and prescribe their duties and compensation, subject to applicable provisions of the State
11 Personnel Relations Law.

12 (3) Delegate to departmental officers and employees such responsibility and authority as the
13 director determines necessary.

14 (4)(a) Determine all questions of general policy for this chapter;

15 (b) Adopt rules for this chapter; and

16 (c) Administer and enforce this chapter.

17 (5) Sue and be sued in the name of the director, and shall have a seal bearing the name of the
18 Employment Department.

19 (6) Adopt proper rules to regulate the mode and manner of all investigations.

20 (7) Prescribe the time, place and manner of making claims for benefits under this chapter, the
21 kind and character of notices required thereunder and the procedure for investigating and deciding
22 claims.

23 (8) Enter into contracts, **to be executed in the name of the state, by and through the Em-**
24 **ployment Department:**

25 (a) Relating to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act deemed necessary by the
26 director to fulfill the mission of the department. [*The director may enter into contracts*]

27 (b) With other states or governments, public bodies or persons to provide or receive services.

28 (c) **With third parties to process claims for benefits when there is an unforeseeable in-**
29 **crease in claims due to a public health emergency.** [*Contracts entered into by the director shall*
30 *be executed in the name of the state, by and through the Employment Department.*]

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 **SECTION 2.** This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
2 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect
3 on its passage.

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