

SB 276 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Housing and Development

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Meeting Dates: 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS) to award grants to eligible entities for programs that subsidize repair and rehabilitation of low income households. Appropriates \$4,000,000 from General Fund to OHCS beginning July 1, 2021, \$2,000,000 of which funds grants and \$2,000,000 of which funds community action agencies for repair and rehabilitation assistance. Requires OHCS to report on use of funds to Legislative Assembly on or before September 15, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS) administers multiple grant programs designed to support the development and preservation of affordable housing. Grants may be awarded to local governments, local housing authorities, nonprofit organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon, regional or statewide nonprofit housing assistance organizations or community action agencies.

OHCS may provide funds for the repair and rehabilitation of low income housing through a variety of existing programs and fund-sources, including the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, National Housing Trust Fund, and Housing Development Grant Program.

Senate Bill 276 establishes a separate grant program for repair and rehabilitation of low income housing, appropriating \$4,000,000 from the General Fund to OHCS. \$2,000,000 is dedicated to grant administration and \$2,000,000 is distributed to community action agencies for loans, grants, and other financial assistance for low income household repair and rehabilitation. OHCS must report to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2022.