Senate Bill 1512

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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.

Specifies conditions under which licensing board, commission or agency may suspend or deny occupational or professional license on basis of applicant’s or licensee’s criminal history, moral character or similar qualification. Provides that denial must be on basis of conviction that substantially relates to specific duties and responsibilities for which license is required. Permits person convicted of crime to petition licensing board, commission or agency at any time for determination as to whether conviction will prevent person from receiving occupational or professional license. Specifies fees that licensing board, commission or agency may charge and notice that licensing board, commission or agency must provide. Prohibits employer, state agency or licensing board from taking certain actions on basis of record created or maintained under jurisdiction of juvenile court. Provides that adjudication that youth is within jurisdiction of juvenile court does not forfeit any right or privilege or operate as disqualification from holding public office or pursuing or engaging in lawful activity, occupation, profession or calling. Specifies certain disclosures to victims or alleged victims of certain acts by adjudicated youths.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the effects on adjudicated persons of adjudications for criminal acts; amending ORS 419A.255, 419C.400, 670.280 and 670.290.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 670.280 is amended to read:

670.280. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “License” includes a registration, certification or permit.

(b) “Licensee” includes a registrant or a holder of a certification or permit.

(2) Except as provided in ORS 342.143 (3) or 342.175 (3) and notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a licensing board, commission or agency that is authorized or required to consider the criminal history, moral character, fitness or similar qualifications of an applicant for a license or a licensee may not deny, suspend or revoke an occupational or professional license because the applicant or licensee has been convicted of a crime that does not substantially relate to the specific duties and responsibilities for which the license is required, but it may consider the relationship of the facts which support the conviction and all intervening circumstances to the specific occupational or professional standards in determining the fitness of the person to receive or hold the license. There is a rebuttable presumption as to each individual applicant or licensee that an existing or prior conviction for conduct that has been classified or reclassified as a Class E violation does not make an applicant for an occupational or professional license or a licensee with an occupational or professional license unfit to receive or hold the license.

(3) In determining whether a crime for which an applicant or licensee was convicted substantially relates to the specific duties and responsibilities for which a license is required,
a licensing board, commission or agency shall consider:

(a) The nature and seriousness of the crime;
(b) The amount of time that has passed since the conviction;
(c) The applicant's or licensee's age at the time the applicant or licensee committed the crime;
(d) Evidence that is relevant to show the circumstances of the crime, including any aggravating or mitigating circumstances or social conditions within which the crime occurred;
(e) The nature of the specific duties and responsibilities for which the license is required; and
(f) Evidence of the applicant's or licensee's rehabilitation or treatment since the conviction.

[3] (4) Except as otherwise prohibited under this section or as provided in ORS 342.143 (3) and 342.175 (3), a licensing board, commission or agency may [deny an occupational or professional license or] impose discipline on a licensee based on conduct that is not undertaken directly in the course of the licensed activity, but that is substantially related to the fitness and ability of the applicant or licensee to engage in the activity for which the license is required. In determining whether the conduct is substantially related to the fitness and ability of the applicant or licensee to engage in the activity for which the license is required, the licensing board, commission or agency shall consider the relationship of the facts with respect to the conduct and all intervening circumstances to the specific occupational or professional standards. There is a rebuttable presumption as to each individual applicant or licensee that an existing or prior conviction for conduct that has been classified or reclassified as a Class E violation is not related to the fitness and ability of the applicant or licensee to engage in the activity for which the license is required.

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a licensing board, commission or agency may not deny an occupational or professional license because of:

(a) An arrest or charge that did not result in a criminal conviction, unless charges are pending;
(b) An adjudication by a juvenile court that a youth is within the juvenile court's jurisdiction, unless a law of this state explicitly authorizes the denial; or
(c) A conviction that was pardoned, sealed or set aside.

(6) A person who was convicted of a crime may at any time petition a licensing board, commission or agency for a determination as to whether a criminal conviction will prevent the person from receiving an occupational or professional license. The licensing board, commission or agency may charge a reasonable fee to pay the costs of making the determination. The licensing board's, commission's or agency's final determination is binding upon the licensing board, commission or agency unless, at the time the person submits a complete application, the person has criminal charges pending, has failed to disclose a previous criminal conviction or has been convicted of another crime during the period between the determination and the person's application.

(7) Before a licensing board, commission or agency makes a final determination under subsection (6) of this section that a criminal conviction will result in a denial of an occupational or professional license, the licensing board, commission or agency shall notify the petitioner in writing of:

(a) The specific conviction that is the basis for the determination;
(b) The reasons the licensing board, commission or agency determined that the con-
viction was substantially related to the specific duties and responsibilities for which the li-
1 cense is required, including reasons that address each of the considerations listed in
2 subsection (3) of this section; and
3 (c) The petitioner’s right to submit within 30 days after the date of the notice additional
4 evidence related to each of the considerations listed in subsection (3) of this section for the
5 licensing board’s, commission’s or agency’s evaluation before issuing a final determination.
6 (8) A licensing board, commission or agency shall issue in writing any final determination
7 under subsection (6) of this section that a criminal conviction will result in a denial of an
8 occupational or professional license. The written determination must also include notice of
9 the petitioner’s right to appeal and of the earliest date on which the petitioner could reapply
10 for a determination or apply for a license after a denial.
11 (9) Every licensing board, commission and agency shall include in any application form
12 for a license and post on the licensing board’s, commission’s or agency’s website a notice
13 that states:
14 (a) Whether a criminal conviction is a possible basis for denying the license;
15 (b) The considerations set forth in subsection (3) of this section; and
16 (c) That applicants have a right to petition for a determination under subsection (6) of
17 this section before submitting a completed application for a license.

SECTION 2. ORS 670.290 is amended to read:
670.290. (1) [It shall be unlawful for any] An employer, state agency or licensing board, in-
cluding the Oregon State Bar, [to] may not:
[(1)] (a) Require [that] an applicant for employment, licensing or admission to answer any
questions regarding the existence or contents of a [juvenile] record that [has been expunged pursuant
to ORS 419A.260 to 419A.271] was created or maintained under the jurisdiction of a juvenile
court;
[(2)] (c) Bar or discharge from employment or refuse to hire or employ [such] an individual be-
cause of the existence or contents of a [juvenile] record that [has been expunged pursuant to ORS
419A.260 to 419A.271] was created or maintained under the jurisdiction of a juvenile court; or
[(3)] (d) Deny, revoke or suspend a license because of the existence or contents of a [juvenile]
record that [has been expunged pursuant to ORS 419A.260 to 419A.271] was created or maintained
under the jurisdiction of a juvenile court.

(2) This section does not apply to or affect:
(a) An employer, state agency or licensing board that a law of this state has explicitly
authorized to consider the juvenile adjudication history of an applicant; or
(b) A licensing board’s, commission’s or state agency’s power or duty to view or consider
an applicant’s or licensee’s juvenile adjudication history for offenses listed in ORS 137.707 (4),
if the board, commission or state agency is authorized or required to consider the applicant’s
or licensee’s criminal history, moral character, fitness or similar qualifications.

SECTION 3. ORS 419A.255 is amended to read:
419A.255. (1)(a) The clerk of the court shall maintain a record of each case and a supplemental
confidential file for each case, except as otherwise provided in ORS 7.120.
(b) The record of the case shall be withheld from public inspection but is open to inspection by
the following:

(A) The judge of the juvenile court and those acting under the judge’s direction;
(B) The child;
(C) The ward;
(D) The youth;
(E) The adjudicated youth;
(F) The parent or guardian of the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth;
(G) The guardian ad litem for the parent;
(H) A person allowed to intervene in a proceeding involving the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth;
(I) The court appointed special advocate, and a representative of a CASA Volunteer Program as defined in ORS 184.489, when reasonably necessary for the appointment or supervision of court appointed special advocates;
(J) The attorneys or prospective appellate attorneys for any of the persons listed in subparagraphs (B) to (I) of this paragraph;
(K) The surrogate;
(L) Service providers in the case;
(M) The district attorney or assistant attorney general representing a party in the case;
(N) The juvenile department;
(O) The Department of Human Services;
(P) The Oregon Youth Authority; and
(Q) Any other person or entity allowed by the court pursuant to ORS 419A.258.

(c) The following are entitled to copies of the record of the case:

(A) The judge of the juvenile court and those acting under the judge’s direction;
(B) A party to the extent permitted under ORS 419B.875 (2) or 419C.285 (2);
(C) Persons listed in paragraph (b)(J) to (P) of this subsection; and
(D) Any other person or entity allowed by the court pursuant to ORS 419A.258.

(2)(a) Reports and other material relating to the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth’s history and prognosis in the record of the case or the supplemental confidential file are privileged and, except at the request of the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth, shall be withheld from public inspection except that inspection is permitted as set forth in subsection (1)(b) of this section and paragraph (b) of this subsection. The offer or admission of reports and other material in the record of the case or the supplemental confidential file as exhibits in a hearing or trial does not waive or otherwise change the privileged status of the reports and other material, except for purposes of the hearing or trial in which the reports and other material are offered or admitted. Once offered as an exhibit, reports and other material relating to the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth’s history and prognosis that were maintained in the supplemental confidential file become part of the record of the case but are subject to paragraph (e) of this subsection.

(b) A supplemental confidential file is open to inspection by the following:

(A) The judge of the juvenile court and those acting under the judge’s direction;
(B) The parent or guardian of the child or ward in a dependency case;
(C) The guardian ad litem for the parent of a child or ward in a dependency case;
(D) The parent or guardian of the youth or adjudicated youth in a delinquency case if the youth
or adjudicated youth consents to, or the court authorizes, inspection;

(E) The guardian ad litem for the parent of a youth or adjudicated youth in a delinquency case if the youth or adjudicated youth consents to, or the court authorizes, inspection;

(F) A person allowed to intervene in a proceeding involving the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth;

(G) The court appointed special advocate, and a representative of a CASA Volunteer Program as defined in ORS 184.489, when reasonably necessary for the appointment or supervision of court appointed special advocates;

(H) The surrogate;

(I) Service providers in the case;

(J) The attorneys or prospective appellate attorneys for:

(i) The child;

(ii) The ward;

(iii) The youth;

(iv) The adjudicated youth;

(v) The parent or guardian of the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth;

(vi) The guardian ad litem for the parent;

(vii) A person allowed to intervene in a proceeding involving the child or ward in a dependency case; or

(viii) The court appointed special advocate and a representative of a CASA Volunteer Program as defined in ORS 184.489;

(K) The district attorney or assistant attorney general representing a party in the case;

(L) The juvenile department;

(M) The Department of Human Services;

(N) The Oregon Youth Authority; and

(O) Any other person or entity allowed by the court pursuant to ORS 419A.258.

c) The supplemental confidential file in cases under ORS 419C.005 may be disclosed to the superintendent of the school district in which the adjudicated youth resides or the superintendent’s designee.

d) The following are entitled to copies of material maintained in the supplemental confidential file:

(A) The judge of the juvenile court and those acting under the judge’s direction;

(B) Service providers in the case;

(C) School superintendents and their designees in cases under ORS 419C.005;

(D) Attorneys designated under subsection (2)(b)(J) of this section;

(E) The district attorney or assistant attorney general representing a party in the case;

(F) The juvenile department;

(G) The Department of Human Services;

(H) The Oregon Youth Authority;

(I) The court appointed special advocate, and a representative of a CASA Volunteer Program as defined in ORS 184.489, when reasonably necessary for the appointment or supervision of court appointed special advocates; and

(J) Any other person or entity allowed by the court pursuant to ORS 419A.258.

e) A person that obtains copies of material in the supplemental confidential file pursuant to paragraph (d) of this subsection is responsible for preserving the confidentiality of the material in
the supplemental confidential file. A service provider, school superintendent or superintendent's
designee who obtains copies of such material shall destroy the copies upon the conclusion of in-
volvement in the case.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (5) of this section, no information appearing in
the record of the case or in the supplemental confidential file may be disclosed to any person not
described in subsections (1)(b) and (2)(b) of this section, respectively, without the consent of the
court, except for purposes of evaluating the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth's eligibility for
special education as provided in ORS chapter 343, and no such information may be used in evidence
in any proceeding to establish criminal or civil liability against the child, ward, youth or adjudicated
youth, whether such proceeding occurs after the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth has reached
18 years of age or otherwise, except for the following purposes:

(a) In connection with a presentence investigation after guilt has been admitted or established
in a criminal court.

(b) In connection with a proceeding in another juvenile court concerning the child, ward, youth
or adjudicated youth or an appeal from the juvenile court.

(4)(a) When a person described in subsection (1)(b)(M), (N), (O) or (P) of this section inspects or
obtains copies of reports, materials or documents under this subsection or under subsection (1) or
(2) of this section, the person may not use or disclose the reports, materials or documents, except:

(A) As provided in this subsection or under subsection (1) or (2) of this section;

(B) In the juvenile court proceeding for which the reports, materials or documents were sought
or disclosed;

(C) With the consent of the court; or

(D) As provided in ORS 419A.253.

(b) Nothing in this section prohibits the district attorney or assistant attorney general repre-
senting a party in a juvenile court proceeding, the juvenile department, the Department of Human
Services, the Oregon Youth Authority or other parties in the proceeding or their attorneys from
disclosing to each other reports, materials or documents described in subsections (1) and (2) of this
section if the disclosure is reasonably necessary to perform official duties related to the involvement
of the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth with the juvenile court or the juvenile department.
A person to whom reports, materials or documents are disclosed under this subsection is subject to
subsection (3) of this section.

(5)(a) Information contained in the supplemental confidential file that, in the professional judg-
ment of the juvenile counselor, caseworker, school superintendent or superintendent's designee,
teacher or detention worker to whom the information in the supplemental confidential file has been
provided, indicates a clear and immediate danger to another person or to society shall be disclosed
to the appropriate authority and the person who is in danger from the child, ward, youth or adju-
dicated youth.

(b) A person that discloses information under paragraph (a) of this subsection has immunity from
any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed for making the disclo-
sure.

(c) Nothing in this subsection affects the provisions of ORS 146.750, 146.760, 419B.035, 419B.040
and 419B.045. The disclosure of information under this subsection does not make the information
admissible in any court or administrative proceeding if it is not otherwise admissible.

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, [and subject to subsection (8) of this section, the
following are not confidential and not exempt from disclosure] the following information may be
disclosed to the victim of an act committed by an adjudicated youth:

(a) The name and date of birth of the youth or adjudicated youth;
(b) The basis for the juvenile court’s jurisdiction over the youth or adjudicated youth;
(c) The date, time and place of any juvenile court proceeding in which the youth or adjudicated youth is involved;
(d) The act alleged in the petition that if committed by an adult would constitute a crime if jurisdiction is based on ORS 419C.005;
(e) That portion of the juvenile court order providing for the legal disposition of the youth or adjudicated youth when jurisdiction is based on ORS 419C.005;
(f) The names and addresses of the youth or adjudicated youth’s parents or guardians; and
(g) The register described in ORS 7.020 when jurisdiction is based on ORS 419C.005.

(7) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and subject to subsection (8) of this section, when a youth has been taken into custody under ORS 419C.080, the following information shall be disclosed to an alleged victim [unless, and only for so long as, there is a clear need to delay disclosure in the course of a specific investigation, including the need to protect the complaining party or the victim]:

(a) The youth’s name and age and whether the youth is employed or in school;
(b) The youth offense for which the youth was taken into custody;
(c) The name and age of the adult complaining party and the adult victim, unless the disclosure of such information is otherwise prohibited or restricted;
(d) The identity of the investigating and arresting agency; and
(e) The time and place that the youth was taken into custody and whether there was resistance, pursuit or a weapon used in taking the youth into custody.

(8) Except as provided in ORS 419A.300 and unless otherwise directed by the court, only the juvenile court, the county juvenile department and the Oregon Youth Authority may disclose the information under subsections (6) and (7) of this section if the information is subject to disclosure. The youth authority may disclose only information relating to adjudicated youths committed to the youth authority by order of the juvenile court if the information is subject to disclosure under subsection (6) of (7) of this section.

(9) Nothing in this section limits access to any juvenile court records by an appellate court reviewing a juvenile court order or judgment. Appellate court rules may establish procedures for appellate court access to juvenile records.

(10) Nothing in this section prohibits the court from providing to the administrator as defined in ORS 25.010 the date of entry of a judgment terminating parental rights or the date of entry of a judgment terminating wardship following entry of a judgment of adoption together with the names and dates of birth of the parents and children subject to the judgment.

(11) In addition to any other provision in this section, the Judicial Department may permit county or statewide access to juvenile court records or information by county juvenile departments, the Department of Human Services, the Oregon Youth Authority, district attorney offices, the office of the Attorney General, the office of public defense services, prospective appellate attorneys or public defense providers subject to the following restrictions:

(a) A prospective appellate attorney or public defense provider granted access under this subsection must agree, pursuant to a written agreement with the Judicial Department, to access:

(A) Party information only for purposes of conflicts screening procedures; and
(B) Other records or information about a client only as reasonably necessary for the represen-
tation of that client in any juvenile case in which the client is a party, subject to applicable state
and federal confidentiality laws.

(b) Any other person or entity granted access under this subsection must agree, pursuant to a
written agreement with the department, to access records or information only as authorized and
allowed by this section, subject to applicable state and federal confidentiality laws.

(c) The State Court Administrator shall prescribe standards and procedures to implement the
provisions of this subsection.

(d) Any person or entity granted access to juvenile court records or information under this
subsection must preserve the confidentiality of that information as required under this section.

(12) A petition filed under ORS 419B.851 alleging that a child who is a foreign national is within
the jurisdiction of the court, or a motion requesting an implementation plan other than return of a
ward to the ward’s parent, is subject to disclosure to the consulate for the child or ward’s country
as provided under ORS 419B.851 (3).

(13) Nothing in this section prohibits a guardian appointed under ORS 419B.365 or 419B.366 from
disclosing or providing copies of letters of guardianship when so required to fulfill the duties of a
 guardian.

(14) The court shall cooperate in the sharing of information with a court in another state to
facilitate an interstate placement of a child or ward.

(15) Nothing in this section prohibits the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Chief Judge
of the Court of Appeals or a presiding judge from permitting access to juvenile court records, in-
cluding the record of the case and the supplemental confidential file in a juvenile court proceeding,
or audio or video recordings of a juvenile court proceeding, by researchers or evaluators for the
purposes of developing statistics and performing analyses or audits on the effectiveness, cost and
other areas of public interest regarding juvenile court programs and activities in accordance with
child welfare and juvenile justice state plans and programs related to Title IV-B and IV-E of the
Social Security Act and to the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq).
The Chief Justice shall, by rule or order, establish standards and guidelines for the release of juve-
nile court information for research and evaluation purposes to ensure confidentiality consistent with
state and federal law and to promote consistent statewide application of this subsection. Statistics
and analyses released by researchers and evaluators under this subsection may not contain any in-
formation that identifies any individual person involved in a juvenile court proceeding.

(16) Subject to subsection (11) of this section, the office of public defense services shall be per-
mitted access to juvenile court records for the purposes of performing the office’s duties as set forth
in ORS 151.219 to audit or investigate attorney appointment or representation of a party in a juve-
nile court proceeding in order to ensure adequate representation of parties in juvenile court pro-
ceedings consistent with the child welfare state plan related to Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.

(17) Subject to subsection (11) of this section, the Oregon State Bar shall be permitted access
to juvenile court records maintained in the record of the case for the purpose of performing the
bar’s duties as set forth in ORS 9.005 to 9.757 to investigate attorney representation of a party in
a juvenile court proceeding and in order to ensure adequate representation of parties in juvenile
court proceedings consistent with the child welfare state plan related to Title IV-E of the Social
Security Act.

(18)(a) A child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth, or the parent or guardian of a child, ward,
youth or adjudicated youth who is a party to the juvenile court proceeding, who is entitled to in-
spect or copy the record of the case under subsection (1)(b) and (c) of this section maintains the
right to inspect or copy the record of the case after jurisdiction of the court over the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth terminates and after the child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth has reached the age of majority.

(b) Notwithstanding ORS 419B.524, a parent of a child, ward, youth or adjudicated youth whose parental rights have been terminated maintains the right that existed under subsection (1)(b) and (c) of this section to inspect or copy the record of the case as the record of the case existed up until the time of entry of the judgment terminating the parent's parental rights and may obtain a copy of the judgment terminating the parent's parental rights.

(19) When inspection or copying of the record of the case or of the supplemental confidential file is allowed pursuant to this section, and unless otherwise required by law, the court that maintains the record of the case or the supplemental confidential file is not required to redact the names of, or information about, siblings or other persons contained in the record of the case or the supplemental confidential file.

(20) Nothing in this section prohibits the court, acting as a certifying agency or official as defined in ORS 147.620, from certifying a request under ORS 147.620 and including in the certification document any information obtained from the record of the case or the confidential supplemental file that is necessary to complete the certification.

(21) Nothing in this section prohibits a court from providing to the Department of State Police, pursuant to ORS 163A.030 (11), a copy of an order requiring a youth or adjudicated youth to report as a sex offender or a copy of a form that documents the youth’s or adjudicated youth’s obligation to report as a sex offender.

SECTION 4. ORS 419C.400 is amended to read:
419C.400. (1) The hearing [shall] must be held by the court without a jury and may be continued from time to time.

(2) The facts alleged in the petition showing the youth to be within the jurisdiction of the court as provided in ORS 419C.005, unless admitted, must be established beyond a reasonable doubt.

(3) If the youth files written notice of intent to rely on the defense set forth in ORS 419C.522, the youth has the burden of proving the defense by a preponderance of the evidence.

(4) For the purpose of determining proper disposition of the youth, testimony, reports or other material relating to the youth's mental, physical and social history and prognosis may be received by the court without regard to their competency or relevancy under the rules of evidence.

(5)(a) An adjudication by a juvenile court that a youth is within [its] the juvenile court's jurisdiction is not a conviction of a crime or offense. The adjudication does not find the youth guilty or determine that the youth is a criminal.

(b) A juvenile court’s adjudication that a youth is within the juvenile court’s jurisdiction does not forfeit any right or privilege or disqualify any person from holding any public office. Unless a law of this state explicitly authorizes a disqualification, an adjudication in a juvenile court does not disqualify a person from pursuing or engaging in any lawful activity, occupation, profession or calling.