House Bill 2424

Sponsored by Representative BREESE-IVERSON; Representative DIEHL (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 Oregon Health Authority to establish grant program for purpose of making grants to entities that provide services related to encouraging and assisting pregnant persons in carrying their pregnancies to term. Establishes Pregnancy Assistance Fund and continuously appropriates moneys in fund to authority for purpose of making grants. Specifies minimum biennial amount to be deposited in fund.

Specifies that authority may reimburse abortions as part of state’s medical assistance program only if abortion is necessary to avoid impairment of pregnant person’s major bodily functions or if pregnancy is result of rape or incest.

Refers Act to people for their approval or rejection at next regular general election.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to funding services for pregnant persons other than types of abortions on which federal moneys may not be spent; and providing that this Act shall be referred to the people for their approval or rejection.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall establish a grant program for the purpose of making grants from the Pregnancy Assistance Fund established under section 2 of this 2023 Act. Under the program, the authority shall make grants to entities:

(a) That are qualified as specified in subsection (2) of this section; and
(b) That inform pregnant or postpartum persons about agencies or organizations that provide services described in subsection (3) of this section;

(B) That refer pregnant or postpartum persons to agencies or organizations that provide services described in subsection (3) of this section;

(C) That assist, in a manner not described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph, pregnant or postpartum persons in receiving services from agencies or organizations that provide services described in subsection (3) of this section; or

(D) That directly provide services described in subsection (3) of this section.

(2) To be qualified to receive a grant under this section, an entity must:

(a) Be a private nonprofit organization.

(b) Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the authority that the entity:

(A) Provides for the proper supervision of activities conducted by the entity;

(B) Primarily will use grant moneys to encourage or assist pregnant persons in carrying their pregnancies to term; and

(C) Will not use grant moneys to encourage or assist pregnant persons in having abortions unless an abortion is necessary to avoid impairment of a pregnant person’s major bodily functions.

(c) Provide each pregnant person who receives assistance from the entity with informa-
tion on:

(A) Fetal development, including a week-by-week description of fetal characteristics;
(B) Adequate medical care for pregnant persons and newborns; and
(C) Adequate nutrition for pregnant persons and newborns.

(3) For purposes of subsection (1)(b) of this section, an entity may assist a pregnant or postpartum person in receiving services from an agency or organization that provides, or an entity may directly provide, one or more of the following services:

(a) Medical care for pregnant or postpartum persons;
(b) Nutritional support services for pregnant or postpartum persons;
(c) Adoption services;
(d) Parenting education;
(e) Parenting support services;
(f) Assistance in acquiring housing; or
(g) Assistance in acquiring further education or finding employment.

(4) The authority may pay expenses incurred by the authority in administering this section out of moneys that are available to the authority for the purpose of making grants under this section.

(5) The authority may adopt rules necessary to administer this section.

SECTION 2. (1) The Pregnancy Assistance Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Pregnancy Assistance Fund shall be credited to the fund.

(2) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority for purposes described in section 1 of this 2023 Act.

(3) The authority may accept from any source any grant, donation or gift of moneys for deposit in the fund.

SECTION 3. At a minimum, the following amounts of moneys shall be appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority for deposit in the Pregnancy Assistance Fund established under section 2 of this 2023 Act:

(1) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, the average amount of moneys per biennium expended by the Oregon Health Authority on reimbursing abortions as part of the state's medical assistance program during the biennia beginning July 1, 2009, July 1, 2011, July 1, 2013, July 1, 2015, July 1, 2017, July 1, 2019, and July 1, 2021; and

(2) For each biennium subsequent to the biennium beginning on July 1, 2023:

(a) The amount of moneys appropriated for the preceding biennium; and

(b) An amount of moneys equal to any percentage increase in the cost of living, based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, West Region (All Items), published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, that has occurred since the beginning of the preceding biennium multiplied by the amount of moneys appropriated for the preceding biennium.

SECTION 4. (1) The Oregon Health Authority may reimburse abortions as part of the state's medical assistance program only if the abortion is performed for one of the following reasons:

(a) The abortion is necessary to avoid impairment of the pregnant person's major bodily functions; or

(b) The pregnancy is the result of rape or incest.
(2) The authority shall adopt rules necessary to verify that reimbursement of abortions as part of the state's medical assistance program is in compliance with this section.

SECTION 5. This 2023 Act shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout this state.