

# House Bill 2592

Sponsored by Representative MORGAN; Senators HANSELL, THATCHER (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**.

Directs Department of Human Services to administer program to provide financial assistance to prospective adoptive families to cover costs associated with adoption that are not paid for or reimbursed by public funds or commercial insurance.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to costs of adoption; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Human Services shall administer a program to pro-**  
5 **vide financial assistance to prospective adoptive families to pay the costs described in sub-**  
6 **section (3) of this section.**

7 **(2) A prospective adoptive family is eligible to participate in the program described in this**  
8 **section if the prospective adoptive family or the birth parent resides in this state.**

9 **(3) The program shall provide financial assistance for the following expenses, fees and**  
10 **costs if the expenses, fees or costs are not paid or reimbursed by available public funding**  
11 **or commercial insurance:**

12 **(a) Prenatal and post-natal medical expenses of the birth parent and child;**

13 **(b) Fees and costs associated with the adoption process, including court fees, attorney**  
14 **fees, private adoption agency fees and fees charged by the department for home studies and**  
15 **placement reports;**

16 **(c) Travel expenses; and**

17 **(d) Any other appropriate adoption-related expenses, as determined by the department.**

18 **(4)(a) The department may not require the prospective adoptive family or birth parent**  
19 **to refund the medical expenses portion of the financial assistance described in subsection**  
20 **(3)(a) of this section if the proposed adoption fails to be finalized for any reason.**

21 **(b) The department may require the prospective adoptive family to refund to the state**  
22 **the expenses, fees and costs described in subsection (3)(b) to (d) of this section if the pro-**  
23 **spective adoptive family withdraws from the adoption.**

24 **(5) The department shall adopt rules for the administration of the program described in**  
25 **this section.**

26 **SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
27 **ated to the Department of Human Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of**  
28 **the General Fund, the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_, which may be expended for carrying out section**  
29 **1 of this 2023 Act.**

30 **SECTION 3. (1) Section 1 of this 2023 Act becomes operative January 1, 2024.**

**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       **(2) The Department of Human Services may take any action before the operative date**  
2 **specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary for the department to carry out**  
3 **section 1 of this 2023 Act on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this**  
4 **section.**

5       **SECTION 4.** **This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
6 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect**  
7 **July 1, 2023.**

8

---