

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2650

Ordered by the House April 10
Including House Amendments dated April 10

Sponsored by Representative BYNUM (at the request of Transforming Justice Coalition) (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.

Establishes requirements for *[informal workgroups]* **work groups** and task forces **established by statute or member of Legislative Assembly.**

[Directs Oregon Department of Administrative Services to establish program for compensating eligible members of informal workgroups and task forces. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for program.]

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to groups assembled to discuss policy.

3 Whereas best practice is to have multiple perspectives engaged in developing policy solutions;
4 and

5 Whereas people directly impacted by policy solutions, including people of color, rural commu-
6 nities and other historically underrepresented communities, have been historically left out of policy
7 conversations; and

8 Whereas there are systemic barriers to people impacted by policies engaging in our democratic
9 processes; and

10 Whereas people who are directly impacted by policies should be able to be compensated for their
11 time without worry for losing their public benefits; and

12 Whereas it is in everyone's interest to ensure that the voices of those directly impacted by the
13 policy being discussed can be heard in an equitable and accessible manner; now, therefore,

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

15 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

16 (a) **"Community-based organization" means an organization that is led by a represen-**
17 **tative of a community or of a significant segment of a community and that works to meet**
18 **community needs and amplify strengths.**

19 (b) **"Historically underrepresented communities" includes but is not limited to people of**
20 **color, ethnic minorities, communities of individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual,**
21 **transgender, queer, two-spirit, intersex, asexual, nonbinary or another minority gender**
22 **identity or sexual orientation community, people who speak languages other than English,**
23 **people from rural areas and people with disabilities.**

24 (c)(A) **"Impacted person" means an individual who is the target of legislation being con-**
25 **sidered by a task force or work group, whose individual life is or would be disproportionately**
26 **impacted by the legislation, or whose interests have been historically underrepresented in**

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 the political process relating to the legislation.

2 (B) "Impacted person" does not include an officer or employee of state or local govern-
3 ment, unless the person is acting only in a personal capacity and not representing the in-
4 terests of state or local government.

5 (d) "Task force" means a group, created by statute for the purpose of discussing pro-
6 posed legislation or recommendations for legislation, that lasts no longer than two years.

7 (e)(A) "Work group" means an organized meeting or group of meetings convened by a
8 member of the Legislative Assembly that is focused on the development of specific and initial
9 bill language and involves the creation of an experience-based foundation for the legislation
10 being worked on.

11 (B) "Work group" does not include a meeting between members of the Legislative As-
12 sembly or other stakeholders that involves advocacy for or against specific legislation.

13 (2) A task force or work group established by statute or by a member of the Legislative
14 Assembly must meet the following requirements:

15 (a) Impacted persons and representatives of community-based organizations must com-
16 prise at least 50 percent of the membership of the task force or work group.

17 (b) At least 25 percent of the persons appointed to the task force or work group under
18 paragraph (a) of this subsection must be impacted persons who are representatives of his-
19 torically underrepresented communities or representatives of community-based organiza-
20 tions serving historically underrepresented communities.

21 (c) Members of the task force or work group who are not otherwise compensated for
22 their participation must be compensated for time and travel by the Legislative Assembly in
23 an amount equal to the per diem allowance allowed to members of the Legislative Assembly
24 under ORS 171.072. A member may decline to accept compensation. Compensation under this
25 paragraph shall be made in a manner that does not compromise a person's eligibility for
26 public benefits, and may be made in the form of cash, gift cards or contributions to an ac-
27 count established under ORS 178.335 within the Oregon 529 Savings Network or to a retire-
28 ment savings plan account established under ORS 178.205. If a person elects to receive
29 compensation in the form of cash, the person must be informed that receipt of cash com-
30 pensation may impact eligibility for public benefits.

31 (d) In recognition that impacted persons do not perform these tasks as part of their
32 regular professional duties, meetings of the work group or task force must, as much as
33 possible, be scheduled at times that center participating impacted persons.

34 (e) Meetings of the task force or work group must, as much as possible, allow partic-
35 ipants to participate remotely and to share thoughts through multiple means, including
36 electronic mail and speaking at the meeting.

37