Enrolled
House Bill 2676

Sponsored by Representatives KROPF, PHAM K; Representatives ANDERSEN, BOWMAN, DEXTER, EVANS, FAHEY, GAMBA, GOMBERG, GRAYBER, HARTMAN, HIEB, HUDSON, LEVY E, NERON, NGUYEN H, REYNOLDS, RUIZ, Senator SOLLMAN (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER ..................................................

AN ACT

Relating to crime victim compensation; amending ORS 147.005, 147.015, 147.025, 147.035, 147.055, 147.105, 147.115 and 147.125; and repealing ORS 147.045.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 147.005 is amended to read:

147.005. As used in ORS 147.005 to 147.367 unless the context requires otherwise:

1. “Applicant” means:
   a. Any victim of a compensable crime who applies to the Department of Justice for compensation under ORS 147.005 to 147.367;
   b. Any person who was a dependent of a deceased victim at the time of the death of that victim;
   c. Any person who is a survivor of a deceased victim; or
   d. Any person eligible for compensation under ORS 147.025.

2. “Board” means the Workers' Compensation Board.

3. “Child” means an unmarried person who is under 18 years of age and includes a posthumous child, stepchild or an adopted child.

4. “Cleaning expenses” means expenses reasonably related to the cleaning of, and the removal of any organic or inorganic matter from, a private residence or place of business due to physical injury to or the death of a person, or conduct that caused physical injury to or the death of a person.

5. “Compensable crime” means abuse of corpse, or actual bodily harm, mental or emotional harm, and, with respect to a victim, includes pregnancy and mental or nervous shock.

6. “Counseling” has the meaning given that term by the department by rule.

7. “Dependent” means such relatives of a deceased victim who wholly or partially were dependent upon the victim’s income at the time of death or would have been so dependent but for the victim’s incapacity due to the injury from which the death resulted.

8. “Department” means the Department of Justice.

9. “Funeral expenses” means expenses of the funeral, burial, cremation, reduction or other chosen method of interment, including plot or tomb and other necessary incidents to the disposition of the remains and also including, in the case of abuse of corpse in any degree, reinterment.

10. “Injury” means abuse of a corpse, or actual bodily harm, mental or emotional harm and, with respect to a victim, includes pregnancy and mental or nervous shock.

11. “International terrorism” means activities that:
(a) Involve violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or any state or that would be a criminal violation if committed within the jurisdiction of the United States or of any state;

(b) Appear to be intended to:
   (A) Intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
   (B) Influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or
   (C) Affect the conduct of a government by assassination or kidnapping; and

(c) Occur primarily outside the territorial jurisdiction of the United States or transcend national boundaries in terms of the means by which they are accomplished, the persons they appear intended to intimidate or coerce, or the locale in which their perpetrators operate or seek asylum.

[(11)] (12) “Involved in the hearing” and “involved in the oral argument” have the meaning given those terms by the department by rule.

[(12)] (13) “Law enforcement official” means a sheriff, constable, marshal, municipal police officer, police officer commissioned by a university under ORS 352.121 or 353.125 or member of the Oregon State Police and such other persons as may be designated by law as a peace officer.

[(13)] (14) “Reduction” has the meaning given that term in ORS 97.010.

[(14)] (15) “Relative” means a person related to the victim within the third degree as determined by the common law, a spouse, or an individual related to the spouse within the third degree as so determined and includes an individual in an adoptive relationship.

[(15)] (16) “Survivor” means any spouse, parent, grandparent, guardian, sibling, child or other immediate family member or household member of a deceased victim, or a person to whom a deceased victim was engaged to be married when the compensable crime occurred.

[(16)] (17) “Victim” means:
   (a) A person:
      (A) Killed or injured in this state as a result of a compensable crime perpetrated or attempted against that person;
      (B) Killed or injured in this state while attempting to assist a person against whom a compensable crime is being perpetrated or attempted, if that attempt of assistance would be expected of a reasonable person under the circumstances;
      (C) Killed or injured in this state while assisting a law enforcement official to apprehend a person who has perpetrated a crime or to prevent the perpetration of any such crime, if that assistance was in response to the express request of the law enforcement official;
      (D) Killed or injured in another state as a result of a criminal episode that began in this state;
      (E) Killed or injured in this state as a result of a compensable crime perpetrated or attempted against the person in a state, within the United States, without a reciprocal crime victims’ compensation program; or
      (F) Who is an Oregon resident killed or injured by an act of international terrorism committed outside the United States; or
   (b) In the case of abuse of corpse in any degree, the corpse or a relative of the corpse.

SECTION 2. ORS 147.015 is amended to read:
147.015. (1) A person is eligible for an award of compensation under ORS 147.005 to 147.367 if:
   (a) The person is a victim, or is a survivor or dependent of a deceased victim, of a compensable crime that has resulted in or may result in a compensable loss;
   (b) The appropriate law enforcement officials were notified of the perpetration of the crime allegedly causing the death or injury to the victim, unless the Department of Justice finds good cause exists for the failure of notification that, notwithstanding the failure of notification, the applicant acted reasonably under the circumstances;
   (c) The notification described in paragraph (b) of this subsection occurred within 72 hours after the perpetration of the crime, unless the Department of Justice finds good cause exists for the failure of notification within 72 hours;
(d) The applicant cooperated with law enforcement officials in the apprehension and prosecution of the assailant or the department has found that the applicant’s failure to cooperate was for good cause;

(e) The application for compensation is not the result of collusion between the applicant and the assailant of the victim;

(f) The department determines that the victim acted reasonably with respect to the incident causing the death or injury to the victim, taking into account the specific situation of the victim and what a reasonable action would be for a person in the victim’s circumstances; and

(g) The application for an award of compensation under ORS 147.005 to 147.367 is filed with the department:

(A) Within one year of the date of the injury to the victim; or

(B) Within such further extension of time as the department, for good cause shown, allows.

(2)(a) The fact that a victim was subjected to sexual exploitation as defined in ORS 419B.005, domestic violence as defined in ORS 135.230, sexual abuse as defined in ORS 163.760 or stalking as defined in ORS 163.732 is prima facie evidence of good cause for the victim’s failure to notify law enforcement in a timely manner under subsection (1)(c) of this section, or for failure to cooperate with law enforcement under subsection (1)(d) of this section.

(b) The requirement under subsection (1)(b) of this section to notify the appropriate law enforcement officials of the perpetration of the crime is satisfied if:

(a) As a result of the compensable crime for which the victim or applicant is applying for compensation, the victim or applicant obtained:

(A) A temporary or permanent stalking protective order under ORS 30.866 or 163.730 to 163.750;
(B) A sexual abuse restraining order under ORS 163.760 to 163.777;
(C) An abuse prevention order under ORS 107.700 to 107.735 or 124.005 to 124.040; or

(D) Any other abuse prevention order or no contact order issued by a state, local, tribal or federal court; or

(b) A health provider, tribal health provider, student health provider or community mental health provider certifies that the victim reported the crime to the provider; or

(c) The victim provides to the department documentation that qualifies as law enforcement notification under the rules of the department.

(3) The department shall adopt rules establishing:

(a) A limited domestic violence counseling award for victims of domestic violence who apply for an award of compensation but who do not otherwise qualify under the eligibility requirements of this section.

(b) A limited sexual assault counseling award for victims of sexual assault who apply for an award of compensation but who do not otherwise qualify under the eligibility requirements of this section.

(b) The types of documentation that qualify as notification to the appropriate law enforcement officials of the perpetration of the crime as described in subsection (2)(c) of this section.

SECTION 3. ORS 147.025 is amended to read:

147.025. (1) Notwithstanding that a person is not a victim or a dependent of a deceased victim under ORS 147.015 (1)(a), the person is eligible for compensation for reasonable medical expenses for the victim and for reasonable funeral expenses of the deceased victim if the person:

(a) Paid or incurred such expenses; and

(b) Files a claim in the manner provided in ORS 147.105 and the conditions in ORS 147.015 (1)(b) to [(g)] (e) are met.
Notwithstanding that a person is not a survivor or dependent of a deceased victim under ORS 147.015 (1)(a), the person is eligible for compensation for reasonable counseling expenses up to a maximum amount of \$5,000 if the person:

(a) Paid or incurred such expenses;
[b] Was a friend or acquaintance of the victim;
[c] Was the first person to discover the corpse of the victim; and

(b)(A) Was the first person to discover the corpse of the victim; or
(B) Was a witness to the crime resulting in the death of a victim; and

d) Files a claim in the manner provided in ORS 147.105 and the conditions in ORS 147.015 (1)(b) to (g) are met.

Notwithstanding that a person is not a victim or a survivor or dependent of a deceased victim under ORS 147.015 (1)(a), the person is eligible for the compensation described in ORS 147.035 if:

(a) The person is the personal representative, as defined by the Department of Justice by rule, of a victim or of a survivor or dependent of a deceased victim;
(b) The person is involved in the proceeding in lieu of the victim, survivor or dependent; and
(c) The person files a claim in the manner provided in ORS 147.105 and the conditions in ORS 147.015 (1)(b) to (g) are met.

The Department of Justice may pay directly to the provider of the services compensation for medical, funeral or counseling expenses incurred by the person.

SECTION 4. ORS 147.035 is amended to read:

147.035. (1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in ORS 147.025 and 147.390, compensation may be awarded under ORS 147.005 to 147.367 only for losses described in this section.
(b) The maximum amount of compensation that may be awarded, in aggregate, to the victim and the survivors and dependents of a deceased victim is \$47,000.
(c) When a compensable crime results in:
(A) Injury to a victim, the losses described in subsections (2), (4), and (7) of this section are compensable.
(B) Death to a victim, the losses described in subsections (3), (4), and (7) of this section are compensable.

(2) When a claim for compensation is filed in a case of injury, compensation may be awarded for:
(a) The victim's reasonable medical and hospital expenses, including counseling expenses and the cost of any medications, up to a maximum amount of \$20,000;
(b) Loss of the victim's earnings, at a maximum rate of \$600 per week, up to a maximum amount of \$20,000;
(c) The victim's rehabilitation expenses, up to a maximum amount of \$4,000; and
(d) Reasonable cleaning expenses, up to a maximum of \$2,500;
(e) The costs of obtaining forensic evidence, using an evidence collection kit, during a medical assessment related to strangulation;
(f) For a parent or legal guardian of a minor victim, lost wages due to providing care for the victim, within the terms and up to a maximum amount determined by the department by rule; and

(g) Expenses related to transportation for the victim's medical care or counseling, at a rate determined by the Department of Justice, up to a maximum amount of \$3,000, when:
(A) The medical care or counseling is compensable under this section;
(B) The medical care or counseling is provided more than 30 miles away from the victim's residence; and
(C) Adequate medical care or counseling is not available in closer proximity to the victim's residence.

(3) When a claim for compensation is filed in a case of death, compensation may be awarded for:
(a) Reasonable funeral expenses, up to a maximum amount of $5,000, with an additional amount awarded at the discretion of the department;

(b) Reasonable cleaning expenses, up to a maximum of $2,500;

[(b)] (c) The victim’s reasonable medical and hospital expenses, up to a maximum amount of $20,000;

[(c)] (d) Loss of support to the dependents of the victim, at a maximum rate of $800 per week, up to a maximum amount of $20,000, less any amounts awarded for loss of earnings under subsection (2)(b) of this section;

[(d)] (e) Reasonable counseling expenses for the survivors of a deceased victim or witnesses to the crime resulting in the death of the victim, up to a maximum amount of $20,000 for each deceased victim and including [up to $1,500 for each survivor for] the cost of any prescription medications prescribed in conjunction with the counseling; and

[(e)] (f) Expenses related to transportation for a survivor’s or a dependent’s counseling, at a rate determined by the department, up to a maximum amount of $3,000, when:

(A) The counseling is compensable under this section;

(B) The counseling is provided more than 30 miles away from the survivor’s or dependent’s residence; and

(C) Adequate counseling is not available in closer proximity to the survivor’s or dependent’s residence.

(4) When a claim for compensation is filed in a case of:

(a) [Rape of a child, child sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, as those terms are described in] Abuse as defined in ORS 419B.005 [(1)(a)(C), (D) and (E)], counseling expenses of the victim’s family, including the cost of any prescription medications prescribed in conjunction with the counseling, are compensable up to a maximum amount of $20,000, less any amounts awarded for the victim’s medical or hospital expenses under subsection (2)(a) of this section.

(b) Domestic violence as defined in ORS 135.230, the counseling expenses of children who witnessed the domestic violence, including the cost of any prescription medications prescribed in conjunction with the counseling, are compensable up to a maximum amount of $10,000.

(c) International terrorism, the counseling expenses of a relative of the victim, including the cost of any prescription medications prescribed in conjunction with the counseling, are compensable up to a maximum amount of $1,000.

(5) Compensation may not be awarded under ORS 147.005 to 147.367 for [pain and suffering or] property damage or noneconomic damages as defined in ORS 31.705.

(6) Notwithstanding subsections (2) to (5) of this section, when a claim for compensation is filed in a case of abuse of corpse in the first degree as defined in ORS 166.087 or abuse of corpse in the second degree as defined in ORS 166.085, compensation may be awarded for one or both of the following:

(a) Reasonable funeral expenses, up to a maximum amount of $5,000, with an additional amount awarded at the discretion of the department.

(b) Reasonable counseling expenses for emotional distress, including the cost of any prescription medications prescribed in conjunction with the counseling, up to a maximum amount of $5,000 for each incident.

(7) If the case against the assailant of the victim is under direct or collateral review [and the victim, survivor or dependent is involved in the hearing or oral argument,] or the subject of any other post-conviction proceeding, or the assailant of the victim has a hearing scheduled before the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision or the Psychiatric Security Review Board or has applied for or is being considered for clemency or any other relief, compensation may be awarded for:

(a) The victim’s, survivor’s or dependent’s counseling expenses, including the cost of any prescription medications prescribed in conjunction with the counseling, up to a maximum amount of [[$5,000] $10,000, and
(b) Other expenses related to the [review] proceeding, including transportation, [and] lodging and any other expenses determined by the department by rule that are necessary for the victim, survivor or dependent to be involved in [hearings and oral arguments] the proceeding, up to a maximum amount [of $3,000] determined by the department by rule.

[(8) If the assailant of the victim has a hearing scheduled before the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision or the Psychiatric Security Review Board and the victim, survivor or dependent is involved in the hearing, compensation may be awarded for:]

[(a) The victim’s, survivor’s or dependent’s counseling expenses up to a maximum amount of $5,000; and]

[(b) Other expenses related to the hearing, including transportation and lodging necessary for the victim, survivor or dependent to be involved in the hearing, up to a maximum amount of $3,000.]

[(9)] (8) A claim for compensation expires and no further payments may be made with regard to the claim:

(a) When three years have elapsed from the entry of a determination order under ORS 147.135; or

(b) If the victim, survivor or dependent attains 21 years of age after the date described in paragraph (a) of this subsection, when the victim, survivor or dependent attains 21 years of age.

[(10)] (9) Notwithstanding subsection [(9)] (8) of this section:

(a) In cases of homicide, a claim for reasonable counseling expenses for survivors may continue until five years have elapsed from the date of the determination order.

(b) Claims described in subsection (7) of this section may be filed [each time an assailant’s case is under direct or collateral review and expire:] at any time while an assailant’s case is involved in the post-conviction proceeding or the assailant has a hearing scheduled or is being considered for release or clemency and do not expire.

[(A) If the assailant is released as a result of the direct or collateral review, when six months have elapsed from the date the assailant is released; or]

[(B) If the assailant is not released as a result of the direct or collateral review, when six months have elapsed from the completion of the review.]

(c) Claims described in subsection (8) of this section may be filed each time an assailant has a hearing before the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision or the Psychiatric Security Review Board and expire:]  

[(A) If the assailant is denied parole, conditional release or discharge, when six months have elapsed from the date of the hearing.]

[(B) If the assailant is paroled, conditionally released or discharged, when six months have elapsed from the date the assailant is paroled, conditionally released or discharged.]  

[(11)] (10) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and [(9)] (8) of this section, if a victim suffers catastrophic injuries:

(a) A claim for compensation and payments may continue beyond the period described in subsection [(9)] (8) of this section; and

(b) The department may award compensation for losses in excess of the individual limitations described in subsection (2) of this section, provided that the aggregate award does not exceed the amount described in subsection (1)(b) of this section.

[(12)] (11) The department shall adopt rules:

(a) Defining the terms and maximum amount of compensation available under subsection (2)(f) of this section.

(b) Defining the types of compensable expenses and maximum amount of compensation available under subsection (7)(b) of this section.

[(a)] (c) Defining catastrophic injuries and establishing the length of time that a claim for compensation and payments may continue under subsection [(11)(a)] (10)(a) of this section.

[(b)] (d) For medical fee schedules. The schedules shall represent at least the 75th percentile of the usual and customary fees charged to the public as determined by the department. An applicant or victim may not be charged for the percentile amount reduced by the department.
SECTION 5. ORS 147.105 is amended to read:

147.105. (1) An applicant for compensation under ORS 147.005 to 147.367 must file an application under oath on a form furnished by the Department of Justice. The application shall include:

(a) The name and address of the victim;
(b) If the victim is deceased, the name and address of the applicant and relationship to the victim, the names and addresses of the victim's dependents and the extent to which each is so dependent;
(c) The date and nature of the crime or attempted crime on which the application for compensation is based;
(d) The date and place where, and the law enforcement officials or other persons described in ORS 147.015 (2)(b) to whom, notification of the crime was given;
(e) The nature and extent of the injuries sustained by the victim, the names and addresses of those giving medical and hospital treatment to the victim and whether death resulted;
(f) The loss to the applicant and to such other persons as are specified under paragraph (b) of this subsection, resulting from the injury or death;
(g) The amount of benefits, payments or awards, if any, payable from any source, which the applicant or other person, listed under paragraph (b) of this subsection, has received or for which the applicant or other person is eligible as a result of the injury or death;
(h) Releases authorizing the surrender to the department of reports, documents and other information relating to the matters specified under this subsection; and
(i) Such other information as the department determines is necessary.

(2) The department may require that the applicants submit with the application materials substantiating the facts stated in the application.

(3) If the department finds that an application does not contain the required information or that the facts stated therein have not been substantiated, it shall notify the applicant in writing of the specific additional items of information or materials required [and that the applicant has 30 days from the date of mailing in which to furnish those items to the department. Unless an applicant requests and is granted an extension of time by the department, the department shall reject with prejudice the claim of the applicant for failure to file the additional information or materials within the specified time].

(4) An applicant may file an amended application or additional substantiating materials to correct inadvertent errors or omissions at any time before the department has completed its consideration of the original application.

(5) The filing of additional information or the amendment of the application pursuant to subsection (3) or (4) of this section shall be considered for the purposes of ORS 147.005 to 147.367 to have been filed at the same time as the original application.

[6] Unless the department finds good cause exists for the applicant's failure to satisfy a financial obligation or unless the interest of justice requires otherwise, the department shall not process an application filed by or on behalf of a victim who owes a financial obligation ordered or imposed as a result of a previous criminal conviction until the department receives information or materials establishing to the satisfaction of the department that the financial obligation has been satisfied. If the department does not receive the information or materials within one year after the department notifies the applicant of the need to fulfill this requirement, the application is void.

[(7)(a)] (6) If at the time of application, the applicant is incarcerated as a result of a conviction of a crime, the department shall process the application [shall be refused and returned to the applicant. The applicant is eligible to refile the application within six months after the applicant is released from incarceration] in the normal course. The claim shall remain open but the applicant is not eligible for compensation until the applicant is released from custody.

[(b) At the time the application is refused and returned, the department shall notify the applicant of the right to refile the claim within six months of release from incarceration.]

SECTION 6. ORS 147.115 is amended to read:
147.115. (1) All information submitted to the Department of Justice by an applicant and all hearings of the Workers’ Compensation Board under ORS 147.005 to 147.367 shall be open to the public unless the department or board determines that the information shall be kept confidential or that a closed hearing shall be held because:

(a) The alleged assailant has not been brought to trial and disclosure of the information or a public hearing would adversely affect either the apprehension or the trial of the alleged assailant;

(b) The offense allegedly perpetrated against the victim is rape, sodomy, [or] sexual abuse, trafficking in persons or a crime involving domestic violence as defined in ORS 135.230, and the interests of the victim or of the victim’s dependents require that the information be kept confidential or that the public be excluded from the hearing;

(c) The victim or alleged assailant is a minor; or

(d) The interests of justice would be frustrated rather than furthered, if the information were disclosed or if the hearing were open to the public.

(2)(a) A record shall be kept of the proceedings held before the board and shall include the board’s findings of fact and conclusions concerning the amount of compensation, if any, to which the applicant and the dependents of a deceased victim are entitled.

(b) No part of the record of any proceedings before the board may be used for any purpose in a criminal proceeding except in the prosecution of a person alleged to have committed perjury in testimony before the board.

(c) Where the interests of justice require, the board may refuse to disclose to the public the names of victims or other material in the record by which the identity of the victim could be discovered.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2)(b) and (c) of this section, the record of the proceedings held before the board is a public record. However, any record or report obtained by the board, the confidentiality of which is protected by any other law, shall remain confidential subject to such law.

(4) Witnesses required to appear at any proceeding before the board shall receive such fees and mileage allowance as are provided for witnesses in ORS 44.415 (2).

SECTION 7. ORS 147.125 is amended to read:

147.125. (1) In determining the amount of compensation for which an applicant is eligible, the Department of Justice shall consider the facts stated on the application filed pursuant to ORS 147.105, and:

(a) Need not consider whether or not the alleged assailant has been apprehended or brought to trial or the result of any criminal proceedings against that person;

(b) Shall determine the amount of the loss to the applicant and, in the case of a deceased victim, of the victim’s survivors or dependents as determined under ORS 147.035;

[(c) Shall determine the degree or extent to which the victim’s acts or conduct contributed to the injuries or death of the victim, and may reduce or deny the award of compensation accordingly. However, the department may disregard for this purpose the responsibility of the victim for the injury of the victim where the record shows that such responsibility was attributable to efforts by the victim to prevent a crime or an attempted crime from occurring in the presence of the victim or to apprehend a person who had committed a crime in the presence of the victim;]

[(d)](e) Except as provided in paragraph [(e)](d) of this subsection, shall deduct the amount of benefits, payments or awards that are payable under the Workers’ Compensation Law, from local governmental, state or federal funds or from any source, and that the victim or survivors or dependents of the victim have received or to which the victim or survivors or dependents of the victim are entitled as a result of the death or injury of the victim;

[(e)](d) Shall not deduct the amount of proceeds from life insurance or contributions from the community that the survivors or dependents of the victim have received or to which the survivors or dependents of the victim are entitled as a result of the death or injury of the victim;

[(f)](e) Shall consider the amount of money available for victim compensation awards as provided in the current biennial department budget approved by the Legislative Assembly or the Emergency Board, and the anticipated claims against that money; and
[(g)] (f) Shall award the resultant amount to the applicant as provided in ORS 147.165.

(2) In determining the amount of an award to be made to an applicant, the department may consider the number and type of claims filed and anticipated to be filed with the department during the current biennial budget period. If the department determines that insufficient funds will be available during the current biennial budget period to pay all filed and anticipated awards, it may prioritize claims or prorate awards based upon the anticipated available funds. The department’s decision to prioritize or prorate claims or awards is not subject to administrative or judicial review, including review under ORS 147.155.

SECTION 8, ORS 147.045 is repealed.
SECTION 9, ORS 147.055 is amended to read:
147.055. (1) [Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 147.045 (1),] The Department of Justice may make an emergency award to the applicant pending a final decision in the claim, if it appears to the department, prior to taking action upon the claim that:
(a) The claim is one with respect to which an award probably will be made; and
(b) Undue hardship will result to the applicant if immediate payment is not made.

(2)(a) The amount of such emergency award shall not exceed $1,000.
(b) The amount of such emergency award shall be deducted from any final award made as a result of the claim.
(c) The excess of the amount of such emergency award over the amount of the final award, or the full amount of the emergency award if no final award is made, shall be repaid by the recipient to the department.

Passed by House February 14, 2023
Repassed by House June 24, 2023

Received by Governor:

M., ........................................................., 2023

Approved:

M., ........................................................., 2023

Tina Kotek, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

M., ........................................................., 2023

Secretary of State