House Bill 3176

Sponsored by Representative REYNOLDS, Senator JAMA

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 Department of Human Services, in consultation with Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement, to award contracts to organizations to provide support services to immigrants and refugees. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for support services.

Directs Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement to convene representatives from state agencies, community-based organizations and other stakeholders to coordinate policy recommendations.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to support services; creating new provisions; amending ORS 185.650; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Human Services, in consultation with the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement, shall establish the Welcome and Reception Program for the purpose of providing immigrants and refugees the following:

(a) Short-term wraparound support services, including shelter, food, clothing, health care, legal services and transportation.

(b) Long-term support services related to integration, education, employment and leadership development.

(2)(a) In administering the program, the department shall enter into contracts and coordinate with organizations in order to provide the support services.

(b) The department may enter into contracts concurrently with no more than 12 organizations.

(c) An amount awarded under a single contract may not exceed $_______ per biennium.

(3) The department shall contract with the Oregon State Bar to provide, through the Legal Services Program established under ORS 9.572, regulatory and fiscal oversight of any organization with which the department enters into a contract to provide immigration-related legal services.

(4) An organization that has been awarded a contract under this section shall provide a report on performance outcomes for the support services provided pursuant to the contract to the department no later than September 15 of each even-numbered year.

SECTION 2. ORS 185.650, as amended by section 8, chapter 118, Oregon Laws 2022, is amended to read:

185.650. (1) There is established within the Department of Human Services the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement for the purpose of operating a statewide immigrant and refugee integration strategy.
(2) The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement is under the supervision and control of a director, who is responsible for the performance of the duties, functions and powers of the office. The director shall be chosen through an open hiring process. In addition to the director, the office shall include at least the following full-time staff members:

(a) One staff member who focuses on community partnerships;
(b) One staff member who focuses on data collection and research; and
(c) One staff member who focuses on administrative support for the office.

(3) The office shall:

(a) Advocate for and partner with statewide immigrant and refugee programs and services that coordinate with long-term support services to meet the needs of immigrant and refugee populations in this state;

(b) Convene representatives from state agencies, community-based organizations and other stakeholders to coordinate and implement policy recommendations on behalf and for the benefit of immigrant and refugee communities;

(3b) (c) Collect data on immigrant and refugee populations in this state for the purposes of determining the needs of the populations and tracking progress in reducing social, economic and health disparities for the populations;

(3c) (d) Monitor and protect data collected under this subsection and ensure that any data collected and maintained by the office is not disclosed to any person or entity not affiliated with the office;

(3d) (e) Track state legislation that impacts immigrant and refugee populations in this state;

(3e) (f) Ensure that any racial and ethnic impact statements for legislation accurately include the impact to immigrants and refugees in this state who are individuals who are Black, indigenous or other people of color;

(3f) (g) Advocate for resources from the federal government to support the immigrant and refugee populations;

(3g) (h) Monitor and, unless prohibited by federal or state law or rule, publish any investments made by the state for the benefit and support of the immigrant and refugee populations;

(3h) (i) Partner with other state agencies as needed to meet the objectives of the office;

(3i) (j) Partner with community-based organizations as needed to meet the objectives of the office; and

(3j) (k) Adopt rules as necessary to carry out this section.

SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Department of Human Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of $_______, for providing support services under the Welcome and Reception Program established pursuant to section 1 of this 2023 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.