

House Bill 3555

Sponsored by Representative DEXTER

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**.

Establishes Agricultural Housing Repair Fund. Continuously appropriates money from fund to Housing and Community Services Department for grants for repair or replacement of agriculture workforce housing.

Requires department to provide grants for urban community housing supporting agricultural employees.

Appropriates moneys to department for fund and grants.

Sunsets fund and grants on January 2, 2028.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to housing for agricultural workforce; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Agricultural Housing Repair Fund is established in the State Treas-**
5 **ury, separate and distinct from the General Fund.**

6 **(2) The Agricultural Housing Repair Fund consists of moneys appropriated, allocated,**
7 **deposited or transferred to the fund by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise.**

8 **(3) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Housing and Community**
9 **Services Department to award and administer grants to owners of land on which is sited**
10 **agriculture workforce housing, as defined in ORS 315.163, to:**

11 **(a) Repair the housing or the infrastructure or amenities supporting the housing; or**

12 **(b) Replace the housing with a small home, as defined in ORS 455.616 or section 2, chap-**
13 **ter 401, Oregon Laws 2019, or a prefabricated structure, as defined in ORS 197.286.**

14 **(4) Grants made under this section:**

15 **(a) May not exceed more than \$10,000 per unit;**

16 **(b) May not exceed 60 percent of the repair or replacement costs; and**

17 **(c) Require that the owner bring all agriculture workforce housing on the tract into**
18 **compliance with all applicable building codes and occupational safety codes.**

19 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2028.**

20 **SECTION 3. Section 4 of this 2023 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 456.548 to**
21 **456.725.**

22 **SECTION 4. (1) As used in this section, "community housing supporting agricultural**
23 **employees" means a housing development that:**

24 **(a) Is within an urban growth boundary;**

25 **(b) Is within 20 miles of significant agricultural employment as identified by the Housing**
26 **and Community Services Department;**

27 **(c) Is promoted for residential use by agricultural employees and developed with amen-**
28 **ities suitable for agricultural employees and their families;**

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 (d) Consists of a multifamily dwelling or a cluster of buildings, including manufactured
2 housing; and

3 (e)(A) Is subject to an affordable housing covenant requiring that the units are main-
4 tained for a period of no less than 99 years as affordable to rent for low income households,
5 as described in ORS 456.270 to 456.295;

6 (B) Is operated as a consumer housing cooperative; or

7 (C) Is operated under a model approved by the department designed to preserve
8 affordability or control of the property by its residents.

9 (2) The Housing and Community Services Department shall provide one or more grants
10 to qualified housing sponsors for the purposes of developing community housing supporting
11 agricultural employees.

12 (3) In awarding grants under this section, the department may prioritize applications:

13 (a) From a developer that is a nonprofit housing corporation;

14 (b) From a developer that is a nonprofit that promotes housing for agricultural employ-
15 ees or other needs of agricultural employees, or from a developer that has entered into a
16 partnership with such a nonprofit for the purposes of developing the community housing;

17 (c) Where other funding for the housing development has been dedicated or can be lev-
18 eraged by the grant;

19 (d) Where the housing development will be located close to significant agricultural em-
20 ployment; or

21 (e) Where the housing development will include or will be near specific characteristics
22 or amenities designed to support or attract agricultural employees and their families.

23 (4) Grants awarded under this section may be used for any project costs for the devel-
24 opment or predevelopment of the community housing supporting agricultural employees.

25 (5) A qualified housing sponsor receiving grants under this section shall agree to provide
26 information to the department to report to an appropriate interim committee of the Legis-
27 lative Assembly, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, on the use of the grant on or before
28 September 15, 2027.

29 **SECTION 5.** Section 4 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2028.

30 **SECTION 6.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
31 ated to the Housing and Community Services Department, for the biennium beginning July
32 1, 2023, out of the General Fund:

33 (1) The amount of \$5,000,000 for deposit into the Agricultural Housing Repair Fund es-
34 tablished under section 1 of this 2023 Act; and

35 (2) The amount of \$20,000,000, to award and administer grants under section 4 of this 2023
36 Act.

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