

Senate Bill 445

Sponsored by Senator HAYDEN (Presession 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**.

Establishes Rural Traffic Safety Grant Fund to provide grants to rural cities for installation and improvement of traffic control devices and crosswalks.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of Transportation for deposit in Rural Traffic Safety Grant Fund.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to traffic safety; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Rural Traffic Safety Grant Fund is established in the State Treasury,**
5 **separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Rural Traffic Safety**
6 **Grant Fund shall be credited to the fund. Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated**
7 **to the Department of Transportation to implement a rural traffic safety improvement pro-**
8 **gram as described in section 2 of this 2023 Act.**

9 (2) The department may apply for, accept, receive and disburse gifts, grants, donations
10 and other moneys from the federal government or from any other source to carry out a
11 rural traffic safety improvement program. Moneys received by the department under this
12 subsection shall be deposited in the fund.

13 (3) The fund consists of the following:

14 (a) Moneys appropriated to the fund by the Legislative Assembly.

15 (b) Earnings on moneys in the fund.

16 (c) Moneys from any other source.

17 (4) The department, in consultation with the Transportation Safety Committee, may
18 award grants from the fund to applicants that comply with criteria adopted by the depart-
19 ment under section 2 of this 2023 Act.

20 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

21 (a) "Rural city" means a city, town or other community located in this state that has a
22 population of 15,000 or less.

23 (b) "Traffic control device" has the meaning given that term in ORS 801.540.

24 (2) The Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Transportation Safety
25 Committee, shall establish a rural traffic safety improvement program. The department may
26 provide, from moneys in the Rural Traffic Safety Grant Fund established under section 1 of
27 this 2023 Act, grants for projects to install or improve traffic control devices and crosswalks
28 in rural cities.

29 (3) The department shall adopt rules specifying the process by which a rural city may
30 apply for a grant under this section and prescribing the terms and conditions of grants.

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 **(4) A grant may not be awarded from the fund unless the applicant pledges matching**
2 **funds to the project of at least 25 percent of the amount of the grant.**

3 **(5) Grants from the fund are limited to a maximum of \$2.5 million per applicant per**
4 **biennium.**

5 **(6) The department may adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this section.**

6 **SECTION 3.** **In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
7 **ated to the Department of Transportation, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the**
8 **General Fund, the amount of \$20,000,000, for deposit in the Rural Traffic Safety Grant Fund**
9 **established under section 1 of this 2023 Act for the purpose of awarding grants under section**
10 **2 of this 2023 Act.**

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

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