

Senate Bill 557

Sponsored by Senator GELSER BLOUIN, Representatives REYNOLDS, DEXTER (at the request of Oulu Noonan)
(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**.

Directs Department of Human Services to establish and administer Youth Support and Repayment Grant Program to provide financial support to specified persons from whom, while in care or custody of department, resources to which persons were entitled were seized and used to pay for certain services provided.

Sunset grant program on later of date Youth Support and Repayment Grant Fund is depleted or January 2, 2053.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to persons from whom assets were seized by the state when the persons were under 21
3 years of age; and prescribing an effective date.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Human Services shall establish and administer the**
6 **Youth Support and Repayment Grant Program as described in this section.**

7 **(2) No later than September 15, 2024, the department shall:**

8 **(a) Identify each person from whom, during the period of time beginning January 1, 1998,**
9 **through the effective date of this 2023 Act, while the person was under 21 years of age and**
10 **in the care or custody of the department, the state seized Social Security benefits, death**
11 **benefits, survivor benefits, crime victim impact payments or any other benefits or resources**
12 **intended for the person and used the seized funds or resources to pay for services provided**
13 **to the person that the person would otherwise have been entitled or eligible through any**
14 **state or federal agency or public or private program.**

15 **(b) Notify each person identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection that they were im-**
16 **pacted by the state's seizure of funds, how to obtain more information regarding which funds**
17 **were seized, when the seizure occurred and the total value of the funds that were seized,**
18 **that the person may be eligible to participate in the Youth Support and Repayment Grant**
19 **Program and instructions for submitting an application to the program.**

20 **(3) Using funds in the Youth Support and Repayment Grant Fund established in section**
21 **2 of this 2023 Act, the department shall award grants to persons described in subsection**
22 **(2)(a) of this section.**

23 **(4) The department shall by rule establish the application process for the grant program.**

24 **(5) Grant recipients may make multiple applications for grants. The cumulative value of**
25 **grants awarded to a specific grant recipient may not exceed 125 percent of the total funds**
26 **seized by the state for services provided to the person while in the care or custody of the**
27 **department.**

28 **(6) Grants may be awarded under this section for:**

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 (a) Services and expenses to support the grant recipient's success in completing high
 2 school or post-secondary education, including tutoring, summer courses or other similar
 3 services, and for activities fees, supplies and equipment for extracurricular activities, when
 4 no other funding is available to the recipient for those expenses.

5 (b) Post-secondary education and training, including books, tuition, fees, equipment, ap-
 6 plications and placement exams not covered through other programs for which the recipient
 7 is eligible.

8 (c) Housing, including a down payment for a house.

9 (d) Training, including training based on a peer support model, related to financial liter-
 10 acy, home ownership, parenting, safe relationships and other subjects related to successful
 11 independent living.

12 (e) One-time purchases of essential household supplies, including furniture, kitchen
 13 equipment, linens and cleaning supplies.

14 (f) Medical, dental and vision services and supplies not otherwise covered by insurance,
 15 including comprehensive reproductive health services.

16 (g) Child care for the recipient's minor child.

17 (h) Start up costs for a business.

18 (i) Transportation, including the purchase of a reliable vehicle or bicycle, to work,
 19 training or affordable housing.

20 (j) Mental health services and treatment when those services and treatment are volun-
 21 tary, not otherwise covered by insurance and selected by the recipient.

22 (k) Travel for education purposes.

23 (L) Other purposes, determined by the department by rule, designed to further the suc-
 24 cess of the recipient in high school completion, post-secondary education and training,
 25 housing stability, professional growth, home ownership and safe and successful parenting.

26 (7) A grant awarded under this section may supplement but not supplant other resources
 27 and services available to or the grant recipient, or for which the grant recipient is entitled
 28 or eligible, through any state or federal agency or public or private program.

29 (8) If moneys remain in the Youth Support and Repayment Grant Fund established in
 30 section 2 of this 2023 Act on January 1, 2053, the department, by rule, may expand eligibility
 31 for grants awarded under this section.

32 **SECTION 2.** (1) There is established the Youth Support and Repayment Grant Fund,
 33 separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Youth Support and
 34 Repayment Grant Fund shall be credited to the fund.

35 (2) The moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Department of Human
 36 Services for purposes of the grant program established in section 1 of this 2023 Act.

37 **SECTION 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this 2023 Act are repealed on the later of the date the
 38 moneys in the Youth Support and Repayment Grant Fund are depleted or January 2, 2053.

39 **SECTION 4.** This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023
 40 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.