

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 766

Ordered by the Senate March 22
Including Senate Amendments dated March 22

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

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.

Directs Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to award noncompetitive grants through Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Program to Department of State Police for specified purposes related to unlawful marijuana cultivation or distribution operations. Specifies that other grants awarded through program are awarded on competitive basis. **Appropriates moneys to commission for specified purposes. Appropriates moneys to Department of Justice for specified purposes.** Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to cannabis; creating new provisions; amending section 13, chapter 103, Oregon Laws 2018;
3 and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 13, chapter 103, Oregon Laws 2018, as amended by section 1, chapter 3,
6 Oregon Laws 2021 (second special session), and section 7, chapter 117, Oregon Laws 2022, is
7 amended to read:

8 **Sec. 13.** (1) The Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Program is established to assist
9 cities and counties with the costs incurred by local law enforcement agencies, **the Department of**
10 **State Police with costs incurred by the department,** and community-based organizations in ad-
11 dressing unlawful marijuana cultivation or distribution operations.

12 (2) The Oregon Criminal Justice Commission shall administer the grant program described in
13 subsection (1) of this section and shall award the grants described in this section.

14 (3) The commission shall adopt rules to administer the grant program. Rules adopted under this
15 section must include:

16 (a) A methodology for reviewing and approving grant applications and awarding grants; and

17 (b) A process for evaluating the efficacy of [*local law enforcement*] programs and services funded
18 by the grant program.

19 (4) Moneys distributed to grant recipients under this section must be spent on costs associated
20 with addressing and prosecuting unlawful marijuana cultivation or distribution operations.

21 **(5) The commission shall establish three categories of grants under this section as fol-**
22 **lows:**

23 **(a) Grants awarded, on a competitive basis, to cities and counties;**

24 **(b) Grants awarded, on a competitive basis, to community-based organizations; and**

25 **(c) Grants awarded to the department.**

26 [(5)] **(6)** The commission shall prioritize the following when awarding grants under this section:

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) Providing financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies and district attorneys in
2 rural areas of this state to address unlawful marijuana cultivation or distribution operations;

3 (b) Supporting local law enforcement agencies and district attorneys in investigating and pros-
4 ecuting large-scale unlawful marijuana cultivation or distribution operations;

5 (c) Providing financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies and district attorneys in the
6 investigation and prosecution of organized crime involved in unlawful marijuana cultivation or dis-
7 tribution operations;

8 (d) Providing financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies and district attorneys in the
9 investigation and prosecution of unlawful marijuana cultivation or distribution operations that di-
10 vert marijuana outside of this state; [and]

11 (e) Providing financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies and community-based or-
12 ganizations in order to address the ongoing humanitarian crisis associated with unlawful marijuana
13 cultivation or distribution operations and to facilitate connections to any necessary assistance and
14 services for individuals impacted by the humanitarian crisis, including but not limited to language
15 translation services, [and] housing and legal assistance **and victim services; and**

16 **(f) Providing financial assistance to the department for equipment, contract services and**
17 **personnel expenses related to the investigation and prosecution of unlawful marijuana culti-**
18 **vation or distribution operations.**

19 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, for the
20 biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$51,000,000 for the
21 purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 13, chapter 103, Oregon Laws 2018, as
22 amended by section 1, chapter 3, Oregon Laws 2021 (second special session), and section 7,
23 chapter 117, Oregon Laws 2022, and section 1 of this 2023 Act, as follows:

24 (1) \$5,000,000 for grants awarded to the Department of State Police;

25 (2) \$6,000,000 for grants awarded for the purposes described in section 13 (6)(e), chapter
26 103, Oregon Laws 2018, as amended by section 1, chapter 3, Oregon Laws 2021 (second special
27 session), and section 7, chapter 117, Oregon Laws 2022, and section 1 of this 2023 Act; and

28 (3) \$40,000,000 for grants for the other purposes described in section 13 (6), chapter 103,
29 Oregon Laws 2018, as amended by section 1, chapter 3, Oregon Laws 2021 (second special
30 session), and section 7, chapter 117, Oregon Laws 2022, and section 1 of this 2023 Act.

31 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated to the Department of Justice, for the biennium be-
32 ginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$750,000 for the purpose of
33 prosecuting labor trafficking issues associated with unlawful marijuana cultivation or dis-
34 tribution operations.

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

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