

Requested by Senator CAMPOS

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
SENATE BILL 603**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 4 through 26 and delete pages  
2 2 and 3 and insert:

3 **“SECTION 1. (1) The People’s Housing Assistance Fund Demon-**  
4 **stration Program is established in the Department of Human Services**  
5 **for the purpose of testing the effectiveness of a guaranteed income**  
6 **program in improving the well-being and the quality of life for**  
7 **Oregonians who face housing insecurity, housing instability and**  
8 **homelessness. Households participating in the program shall receive**  
9 **monthly payments of \$1,000 for a 24-month period and may use the**  
10 **payments at their discretion.**

11 **“(2) A household qualifies for the program if the household has**  
12 **applied and qualified for, but is not receiving, housing assistance**  
13 **through a housing voucher program or subsidized housing that is re-**  
14 **stricted to households earning 60 percent or less of the area median**  
15 **income, as defined in ORS 458.610.**

16 **“(3) Payments received from the program are exempt from personal**  
17 **income taxation imposed by this state under ORS chapter 316 and may**  
18 **not count as income in the determination of eligibility for any needs-**  
19 **based benefits or assistance provided with state funds only.**

20 **“(4) The department shall cap enrollment in the program based on**  
21 **the availability of moneys appropriated by the Legislative Assembly**

1 for the program.

2 “(5) The department shall adopt rules for the administration of the  
3 program in consultation with the Portland State University  
4 Homelessness Research and Action Collaborative and must ensure that  
5 the program’s design, recruitment, enrollment and administration  
6 align with the purposes of the study described in section 2 of this 2023  
7 Act.

8 SECTION 2. (1) The Portland State University Homelessness Re-  
9 search and Action Collaborative shall conduct a study evaluating the  
10 effectiveness of the People’s Housing Assistance Fund Demonstration  
11 Program established in section 1 of this 2023 Act in improving the  
12 well-being and quality of life for households participating in the pro-  
13 gram.

14 “(2) In conducting the study, the collaborative shall give special  
15 attention to outcomes for members of demographic groups that are  
16 disproportionately vulnerable to housing insecurity, housing instabil-  
17 ity and homelessness, including groups defined by:

18 “(a) Geographic location and the size of the populations where the  
19 participant resides;

20 “(b) Racial and ethnic identity;

21 “(c) Current housing status; and

22 “(d) Household type, such as households including children and  
23 households including older adults.

24 “(3) The study shall build upon the existing body of research eval-  
25 uating similar direct cash assistance programs nationwide.

26 “(4) The study shall employ a variety of research methods, includ-  
27 ing quantitative, qualitative and participatory action research meth-  
28 ods, and document outcomes through a variety of means, including  
29 but not limited to statistics and narratives of participants’ experi-  
30 ences.

1       **“SECTION 3. (1) No later than October 15, 2024, the Portland State**  
2 **University Homelessness Research and Action Collaborative shall pro-**  
3 **vide a report, in the manner provided under ORS 192.245, to the in-**  
4 **terim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to human**  
5 **services and housing. The report shall include:**

6       **“(a) Preliminary findings of the study carried out under section 2**  
7 **of this 2023 Act, based on the experiences and outcomes of program**  
8 **participants to-date.**

9       **“(b) Evaluation of preliminary study findings in relation to the**  
10 **outcomes of similar cash assistance programs in other states or re-**  
11 **gions.**

12       **“(c) Recommendations for the design and implementation of a**  
13 **long-term direct cash assistance program administered by the State**  
14 **of Oregon, including but not limited to recommendations as to:**

15       **“(A) Ensuring efficient, effective and sustainable program admin-**  
16 **istration;**

17       **“(B) Program design, including eligibility and direct cash assistance**  
18 **amount;**

19       **“(C) Overcoming barriers to participation, including but not limited**  
20 **to barriers related to geographic location, racial and ethnic identity,**  
21 **language, disability, immigration and citizenship status, and lack of**  
22 **permanent address; and**

23       **“(D) Preventing program participation from affecting participants’**  
24 **ability to qualify for and access other public benefits.**

25       **“(2) No later than six months following the conclusion of the**  
26 **24-month People’s Housing Assistance Fund Demonstration Program,**  
27 **the collaborative shall provide a final report to the interim committees**  
28 **of the Legislative Assembly related to human services and housing.**  
29 **The report shall include:**

30       **“(a) Final, complete findings of the study carried out under section**

1 **2 of this 2023 Act.**

2 **“(b) An evaluation of any relevant studies or other documentation**  
3 **of direct cash assistance programs in other states or regions that may**  
4 **have been published following the collaborative’s 2024 report.**

5 **“(c) An initial evaluation and rubric for future evaluation of any**  
6 **long-term direct cash assistance program that may have been estab-**  
7 **lished by the State of Oregon.**

8 **“(3) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are**  
9 **directed, to the extent permitted by laws related to confidentiality, to**  
10 **furnish information and advice necessary for the collaborative to**  
11 **complete the study and reports described in this 2023 Act.**

12 **“SECTION 4. No later than December 1, 2024, the Department of**  
13 **Human Services, based on the experience of the department in ad-**  
14 **ministering the People’s Housing Assistance Fund Demonstration**  
15 **Program under section 1 of this 2023 Act and the report of the Portland**  
16 **State University Homelessness Research and Action Collaborative un-**  
17 **der section 3 (1) of this 2023 Act, shall provide to the interim com-**  
18 **mittees of the Legislative Assembly related to human services and**  
19 **housing a legislative concept, to be introduced in the 2025 regular**  
20 **session of the Legislative Assembly, to implement a long-term cash**  
21 **assistance program.**

22 **“SECTION 5. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-**  
23 **ation, there is appropriated to the Department of Human Services, for**  
24 **the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the**  
25 **amount of \$25,000,000, which may be expended for:**

26 **“(1) Making payments to participants in the People’s Housing As-**  
27 **sistance Fund Demonstration Program established in section 1 of this**  
28 **2023 Act;**

29 **“(2) Contracting with Portland State University to complete the**  
30 **study and reports described in sections 2 and 3 of this 2023 Act; and**

1       **“(3) Administration of the program if funds for administration are**  
2 **not otherwise available.**

3       **“SECTION 6. Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2,**  
4 **2028.**

5       **“SECTION 7. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate**  
6 **preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is**  
7 **declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.”.**

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