

LC 257  
2026 Regular Session  
1/9/26 (HE/ps)

# D R A F T

## SUMMARY

Digest: The Act makes the Transit Funding Task Force and tells the task force to make a report. (Flesch Readability Score: 100).

Establishes the Transit Funding Task Force and directs the task force to report to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to transportation no later than December 15, 2026.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to a transit funding task force; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** **(1) The Transit Funding Task Force is established.**

5 **(2) The task force consists of 21 members appointed as follows:**

6 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one nonvoting mem-**  
7 **ber from among members of the Senate.**

8 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one**  
9 **nonvoting member from among members of the House of Represen-**  
10 **tatives.**

11 **(c) The Governor shall appoint 19 members as follows:**

12 **(A) One member who represents the City of Portland;**  
13 **(B) One member who represents the Amalgamated Transit Union;**  
14 **(C) One member who represents a workers' union;**  
15 **(D) One member who represents a mass transit provider;**  
16 **(E) One member who represents a business association representing**  
17 **the Portland metropolitan area;**  
18 **(F) One member who represents a business association representing**

**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   **businesses outside the Portland metropolitan area;**  
2    (G) One member who represents a tribal transit provider;  
3    (H) One member who represents a transit provider that provides  
4    **services in a city with a population of less than 100,000;**  
5    (I) One member who represents a transit provider from an urban  
6    area;  
7    (J) One member who represents a rural transit provider;  
8    (K) One employee of the Department of Transportation who re-  
9    presents the department;  
10   (L) One member who represents a transit provider that primarily  
11    serves people with disabilities and seniors;  
12   (M) One member who represents Metro, as defined in ORS 197.015;  
13   (N) One member who represents city governments in this state;  
14   (O) One member who represents county governments in this state;  
15   (P) One member who represents an organization that advocates for  
16    **transportation safety;**  
17   (Q) One member who represents transit riders who utilize a low-  
18    income transit pass program;  
19   (R) One member who represents an employer headquartered in  
20    **Oregon with over 100 employees; and**  
21   (S) One member who represents an employer headquartered in  
22    **Oregon with 100 employees or fewer.**

23   **(3) The task force shall:**  
24     (a) Determine the level of funding needed to maintain adequate  
25     transit service statewide that is reliable, safe and accessible and allows  
26     for population growth over time; and  
27     (b) Explore funding mechanisms to achieve the funding needs de-  
28     termined in paragraph (a) of this subsection.  
29   **(4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes**  
30   **a quorum for the transaction of business.**  
31   **(5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a ma-**

1 **ajority of the voting members of the task force.**

2 **(6) The Governor shall select one member of the task force to serve**  
3 **as chairperson and another to serve as vice chairperson, for the terms**  
4 **and with the duties and powers necessary for the performance of the**  
5 **functions of the offices as the Governor determines.**

6 **(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority**  
7 **shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.**

8 **(8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the**  
9 **call of the chairperson or of a majority of the voting members of the**  
10 **task force.**

11 **(9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of**  
12 **the task force.**

13 **(10) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided**  
14 **by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to**  
15 **an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to trans-**  
16 **portation no later than December 1, 2026. The report must include re-**  
17 **commended revenue mechanisms including the following information**  
18 **about each recommended mechanism:**

19 **(a) The amount of revenue the mechanism is projected to raise;**  
20 **(b) Who would pay; and**  
21 **(c) The likelihood of the revenue source being a reliable source of**  
22 **revenue in the future.**

23 **(11) The Legislative Revenue Office shall provide staff support to**  
24 **the task force.**

25 **(12) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task**  
26 **force are nonvoting members of the task force and may act in an ad-**  
27 **visory capacity only.**

28 **(13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legis-**  
29 **lative Assembly serve as volunteers on the task force and, unless they**  
30 **are qualified members, as defined in ORS 292.495, are not entitled to**  
31 **compensation or reimbursement for expenses.**

1       (14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are  
2       directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties of the  
3       task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to  
4       confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the  
5       task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

6       SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2026 Act is repealed on December 31,  
7       2027.

8       SECTION 3. This 2026 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-  
9       ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-  
10       clared to exist, and this 2026 Act takes effect on its passage.

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