

# D R A F T

## SUMMARY

Digest: The Act would have Business Oregon work with other state and local bodies to update the state’s unified trade strategy. The Act would have DAS make a procurement reform roadmap by December 15 of this year. The Act would set up a task force to advise on how to retain business and private investment in this state. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.3.)

Directs the Oregon Business Development Department to collaborate with the Port of Portland, the Oregon Tourism Commission, the State Department of Agriculture and other stakeholders on updating the unified trade strategy for Oregon.

Directs the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to produce a procurement reform roadmap and deliver the roadmap to a committee or interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to general government no later than December 15, 2026.

Establishes the Task Force on Business Retention for the purpose of making recommendations to the Legislative Assembly for improving strategies to retain businesses and private investment in this state.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to a unified trade strategy for Oregon; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) There is allocated for the biennium ending June 30,**  
5 **2027, from the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund,**  
6 **to the Oregon Business Development Department, the amount of**  
7 **\$300,000 for the purposes set forth in subsection (2) of this section.**

8 **(2) The Oregon Business Development Department, in collaboration**  
9 **with the Port of Portland, the Oregon Tourism Commission, the State**  
10 **Department of Agriculture and other stakeholders selected by the**

1 **Oregon Business Development Department, shall update the unified**  
2 **trade strategy for Oregon, including, but not limited to:**

3 **(a) Identifying opportunities to increase Oregon’s presence in for-**  
4 **ign markets, including in-market capacity for emerging markets;**

5 **(b) Supporting outbound and inbound trade missions for govern-**  
6 **ment and businesses, including support with aligned messaging;**

7 **(c) Promoting Oregon exports and attracting foreign direct invest-**  
8 **ments in Oregon; and**

9 **(d) Providing technical assistance to Oregon exporters, including**  
10 **those impacted by tariffs, to support international market access and**  
11 **business expansion.**

12 **SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services**  
13 **shall produce a procurement reform roadmap. The roadmap must in-**  
14 **clude:**

15 **(a) A legal analysis of current procurement laws to identify barriers**  
16 **to effective local procurement, especially for businesses in econom-**  
17 **ically distressed communities.**

18 **(b) An assessment of state procurement spending over the past five**  
19 **years to determine what proportions of spending have gone to entities**  
20 **in this state and outside of this state.**

21 **(c) A tax impact analysis comparing local and non-local contracts.**

22 **(d) A review of existing best practices being used by the state with**  
23 **regard to procurement.**

24 **(e) Recommendations for implementation.**

25 **(2)(a) The department shall deliver and report on a draft procure-**  
26 **ment reform roadmap to a committee or interim committee of the**  
27 **Legislative Assembly relating to general government no later than**  
28 **September 15, 2026.**

29 **(b) The department shall deliver and report on the final procure-**  
30 **ment reform roadmap to a committee or interim committee of the**  
31 **Legislative Assembly relating to general government no later than**

1 **December 15, 2026.**

2 **SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2026 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.**

3 **SECTION 4. (1) The Task Force on Business Retention is established**  
4 **for the purpose of making recommendations to the Legislative As-**  
5 **sembly for improving strategies to retain businesses and private in-**  
6 **vestment in this state.**

7 **(2) The task force consists of nine members appointed as follows:**

8 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two nonvoting mem-**  
9 **bers from among members of the Senate, one from the majority party**  
10 **and one from the minority party.**

11 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two**  
12 **nonvoting members from among members of the House of Represen-**  
13 **tatives, one from the majority party and one from the minority party.**

14 **(c) The Governor shall appoint five members as follows:**

15 **(A) The Governor or the Governor's designee.**

16 **(B) One member representing the Oregon Economic Development**  
17 **Association.**

18 **(C) One member representing an economic development organiza-**  
19 **tion serving the Portland metro region.**

20 **(D) One member representing an economic development organiza-**  
21 **tion serving communities west of the Cascades.**

22 **(E) One member representing an economic development organiza-**  
23 **tion serving communities east of the Cascades.**

24 **(3) The task force, in collaboration with any other task force es-**  
25 **tablished by the Legislative Assembly and charged with a scope of**  
26 **work that overlaps or intersects with the work of the Task Force on**  
27 **Business Retention, shall develop recommendations to:**

28 **(a) Solicit input from existing businesses and economic develop-**  
29 **ment organizations to inform the work of the task force.**

30 **(b) Expand and enhance business incentive programs to compete**  
31 **more effectively with other states.**

1 (c) Consolidate and streamline existing business retention and  
2 recruitment programs.

3 (d) Increase proactive communication with businesses to under-  
4 stand their needs and concerns.

5 (e) Encourage collaboration between state, regional and local eco-  
6 nomic development organizations to create a cohesive and integrated  
7 approach to business retention and recruitment.

8 (f) Provide targeted support for businesses looking to expand within  
9 Oregon.

10 (4) Recommendations developed under subsection (3) of this section  
11 must include:

12 (a) Statutory changes needed to ensure that federal, state and local  
13 funds are being spent to maximize outcomes and resource efficiency;

14 (b) Policy changes recommended based on a comparative analysis  
15 of policies in other states that spend less on business incentives but  
16 demonstrate better business retention and growth outcomes; and

17 (c) Any governance changes that would facilitate greater alignment  
18 of spending decisions between federal, state and local economic devel-  
19 opment agencies.

20 (5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes  
21 a quorum for the transaction of business.

22 (6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a ma-  
23 jority of the voting members of the task force.

24 (7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chair-  
25 person.

26 (8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority  
27 shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

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

31 (10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of

1 **the task force.**

2 **(11)(a) The task force shall provide draft recommendations devel-**  
3 **oped under subsections (3) and (4) of this section to the interim com-**  
4 **mittees of the Legislative Assembly related to economic development**  
5 **no later than September 15, 2026.**

6 **(b) The task force shall submit a final report of the task force's**  
7 **recommendations, in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, to the in-**  
8 **terim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to economic de-**  
9 **velopment no later than December 15, 2026.**

10 **(12) The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall provide staff**  
11 **support to the task force, including by:**

12 **(a) Researching and providing analysis on current business re-**  
13 **tention strategies in Oregon communities;**

14 **(b) Reviewing strategies that have been successful in other states;**

15 **(c) Reviewing data related to the challenges faced by Oregon busi-**  
16 **nesses in remaining in or growing in Oregon; and**

17 **(d) Reviewing programs offered by state and local economic devel-**  
18 **opment agencies.**

19 **(13) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task**  
20 **force are nonvoting members of the task force and may act in an ad-**  
21 **visory capacity only.**

22 **(14) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legis-**  
23 **lative Assembly serve as volunteers on the task force and are not en-**  
24 **titled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses.**

25 **(15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are**  
26 **directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties of the**  
27 **task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to**  
28 **confidentiality, to furnish information and advice that the members**  
29 **of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties.**

30 **SECTION 5. Section 4 of this 2026 Act is repealed on December 31,**  
31 **2027.**

1        **SECTION 6. This 2026 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-**  
2 **ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-**  
3 **clared to exist, and this 2026 Act takes effect on its passage.**

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