

**Enrolled**  
**Senate Bill 983**

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to the adoption of local budgets; amending ORS 244.120; and declaring an emergency.

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

**SECTION 1.** ORS 244.120 is amended to read:

244.120. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, when met with an actual or potential conflict of interest, a public official shall:

(a) If the public official is a member of the Legislative Assembly, announce publicly, pursuant to rules of the house of which the public official is a member, the nature of the conflict before taking any action thereon in the capacity of a public official.

(b) If the public official is a judge, remove the judge from the case giving rise to the conflict or advise the parties of the nature of the conflict.

(c) If the public official is any other appointed official subject to this chapter, notify in writing the person who appointed the public official to office of the nature of the conflict, and request that the appointing authority dispose of the matter giving rise to the conflict. Upon receipt of the request, the appointing authority shall designate within a reasonable time an alternate to dispose of the matter, or shall direct the official to dispose of the matter in a manner specified by the appointing authority.

(2) An elected public official, other than a member of the Legislative Assembly, or an appointed public official serving on a board or commission, shall:

(a) When met with a potential conflict of interest, announce publicly the nature of the potential conflict prior to taking any action thereon in the capacity of a public official; or

(b) When met with an actual conflict of interest, announce publicly the nature of the actual conflict and:

(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) **or** (C) of this paragraph, refrain from participating as a public official in any discussion or debate on the issue out of which the actual conflict arises or from voting on the issue.

(B) If any public official's vote is necessary to meet a requirement of a minimum number of votes to take official action, be eligible to vote, but not to participate as a public official in any discussion or debate on the issue out of which the actual conflict arises.

**(C) If the official action is the adoption of a local budget under ORS 294.305 to 294.565 that includes providing compensation or benefits to the public official or a relative of the public official, be eligible to participate in any discussion or debate on the budget and to vote.**

(3) Nothing in subsection (1) or (2) of this section requires any public official to announce a conflict of interest more than once on the occasion which the matter out of which the conflict arises is discussed or debated.

(4) Nothing in this section authorizes a public official to vote if the official is otherwise prohibited from doing so.

**SECTION 2. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on its passage.**

**Passed by Senate May 15, 2025**

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Obadiah Rutledge, Secretary of Senate

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Rob Wagner, President of Senate

**Passed by House June 17, 2025**

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Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

**Received by Governor:**

.....M,....., 2025

**Approved:**

.....M,....., 2025

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Tina Kotek, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M,....., 2025

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Tobias Read, Secretary of State