

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Authorizes Housing and Community Services Department to provide grants and technical assistance to organizations assisting tenants in eviction proceedings.

Requires department to report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly on expenditures and services before September 15 of each year.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to residential tenancies.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Sections 2 and 3 of this 2020 Act are added to and made**
5 **a part of ORS chapter 456.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

7 (a) **“Eligible tenant” means a tenant, as defined in ORS 90.100, in**
8 **a household with an income no greater than 200 percent of the federal**
9 **poverty guidelines.**

10 (b) **“Eviction proceeding” means a proceeding to terminate the**
11 **residential tenancy of an eligible tenant under ORS 105.105 to 105.168.**

12 (c) **“Legal service provider” means a legal service provider deter-**
13 **mined eligible for funding from the Legal Services Program estab-**
14 **lished under ORS 9.572 that provides tenants with legal assistance in**
15 **eviction proceedings.**

16 (d) **“Tenant organization” means a legal service provider or a**
17 **nonprofit organization organized under ORS chapter 65 with the ca-**
18 **capacity to conduct outreach, engagement and education to eligible**
19 **tenants regarding legal rights.**

1 **(2) The Housing and Community Services Department shall provide**
2 **grants and technical assistance to tenant organizations for the pur-**
3 **pose of providing to eligible tenants:**

4 **(a) Legal representation in an eviction proceeding from a legal**
5 **service provider as early as feasible within the eviction proceeding;**
6 **and**

7 **(b) Educational resources regarding eligible tenants' legal rights**
8 **within an eviction proceeding and other resources to assist in avoiding**
9 **eviction.**

10 **(3) The department, in consultation with the Oregon Housing Sta-**
11 **bility Council, shall determine by rule eligibility and priorities for**
12 **funding under this section.**

13 **SECTION 3.** **Before September 15 of each year, the Housing and**
14 **Community Services Department shall submit a written report to an**
15 **interim committee of the Legislative Assembly detailing the grants**
16 **and assistance given under section 2 of this 2020 Act, including the**
17 **number of tenants engaged, the types of legal representation and other**
18 **services provided and a summary of outcomes.**

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