House Bill 4002

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Human Services and Housing for Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Requires Housing and Community Services Department to study long-term rent assistance and to report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly no later than October 1, 2020.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to housing; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Housing and Community Services Department shall conduct a study on the costs and benefits of providing long-term rental assistance to Oregonians who, due to severe rent burden, are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.

(2) The study must include estimates of costs of providing long-term rental assistance across different geographic regions and to serve different populations, including households with:

(a) Children five years of age or younger;

(b) Children at least six years of age and not older than 17 years of age;

(c) Unaccompanied homeless youths, as defined in ORS 343.035;

(d) Wards who have aged out of permanent foster care, shelter care or substitute care, as defined in ORS 419A.004;

(e) Individuals who have been victims of domestic violence, as defined in ORS 135.230, 181A.355 or 411.117, or who are at risk of domestic violence;

(f) Seniors and persons with disabilities; and

(g) Veterans.

(3) The study must include an exploration of opportunities for administrative efficiencies that can be gained by looking at best practices, including local, state and federal long-term rental assistance programs and by consulting with urban and rural local housing authorities, as defined in ORS 456.375.

(4) No later than October 1, 2020, the department shall provide a report on the findings of the study to an appropriate interim committee of the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided under ORS 192.245.

SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Housing and Community Services Department, for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, out of the General Fund, the amount of $125,000, to conduct the study required under section 1 of this 2020 Act.

SECTION 3. This 2020 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2020 Act takes effect on its passage.