

# House Bill 2805

Sponsored by Representatives BOLES, HELT; Representatives DRAZAN, FINDLEY, LEIF, NEARMAN, NOBLE, SMITH DB

## 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**.

Establishes Oregon Youth Aging Out of Foster Care Task Force. Requires task force to develop recommendations for housing and shelter for youth aging out of foster care.

Requires task force to submit report to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2020.

Sunsets task force on December 31, 2020.

Amends policy of Housing and Community Services Department to require consideration of youth aging out of foster care.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to youth aging out of foster care; creating new provisions; amending ORS 456.550; and de-  
3 claring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Youth Aging Out of Foster Care Task Force is established.**

6 **(2) The task force consists of seven members as follows:**

7 **(a) The Director of the Housing and Community Services Department, or the director's**  
8 **designee, shall serve as a member and the chairperson of the task force;**

9 **(b) The Director of the Housing and Community Services Department shall appoint two**  
10 **members who meet the following qualifications:**

11 **(A) One member who represents the interests of nonprofit organizations dedicated to**  
12 **providing housing, transitional accommodations or shelter for youth aging out of foster care;**  
13 **and**

14 **(B) One member who represents the interests of nonprofit organizations providing af-**  
15 **fordable housing throughout this state;**

16 **(c) The Director of Human Services, or the director's designee, shall serve as a member**  
17 **of the task force;**

18 **(d) The Director of Human Services shall appoint two members who meet the following**  
19 **qualifications:**

20 **(A) One member who represents a CASA Volunteer Program, as defined in ORS 419A.004;**  
21 **and**

22 **(B) One member who represents child care centers, as defined in ORS 419A.004; and**

23 **(e) The Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, or the deputy superintendent's**  
24 **designee, shall serve as a member of the task force.**

25 **(3) The task force shall develop recommendations for addressing needs of youth aging out**  
26 **of foster care for temporary shelter, transitional housing and permanent housing.**

27 **(4) The task force may, in carrying out its duties, consult with any advisers or other**  
28 **persons as the task force deems necessary or advisable.**

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

3       **(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting**  
 4 **members of the task force.**

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

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

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

10       **(10) The task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations, including**  
 11 **recommendations for legislation, to the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided by ORS**  
 12 **192.245 no later than September 15, 2020.**

13       **(11) The Housing and Community Services Department shall provide staff support to the**  
 14 **task force.**

15       **(12) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting**  
 16 **members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.**

17       **(13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not**  
 18 **entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task**  
 19 **force.**

20       **(14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist**  
 21 **the task force in the performance of the task force’s duties and, to the extent permitted by**  
 22 **laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task**  
 23 **force consider necessary to perform their duties.**

24       **(15) As used in this section, “youth aging out of foster care” includes individuals:**

25       **(a) Who are at least 16 years of age and less than 22 years of age; and**

26       **(b) Who are or were a child in care as defined in ORS 418.257.**

27       **SECTION 2.** ORS 456.550 is amended to read:

28       456.550. (1) There exists in this state a seriously inadequate supply of and a pressing need for  
 29 safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations within the financial means of persons and families of  
 30 lower income, including but not limited to persons and families displaced by the clearing of [*slums*  
 31 *and*] blighted areas or by other public programs;

32       (2) Private lending institutions have been and will continue to be unable to provide necessary  
 33 financial support for lower income housing and the resulting shortage of financing has been in whole  
 34 or in part responsible for the shortage of lower income housing;

35       (3) It is a valid public purpose to provide for the construction, rehabilitation, purchase, leasing  
 36 and refinancing of housing for such persons and families who would otherwise be unable to obtain  
 37 adequate dwelling accommodations which they could afford and to aid in the acquisition of land for  
 38 present or future developments including such housing accommodations;

39       (4) It is further found that the authority and powers conferred by ORS 456.548 to 456.725 and  
 40 ORS chapter 458 upon the Housing and Community Services Department and the Director of the  
 41 Housing and Community Services Department constitute a necessary public program and serve a  
 42 valid public purpose;

43       (5) To stimulate and increase the supply of housing for persons and families of lower income it  
 44 is necessary that a central source of housing information, planning, educational services and tech-  
 45 nical assistance and a revolving fund be established. The Housing and Community Services Depart-

1 ment shall be that central source in this state;

2 (6) It is the policy of this state to increase the amount of and improve the condition of low and  
3 moderate income housing by investing in developing local capacity to build, rehabilitate and manage  
4 housing. A primary vehicle for building such capacity is the formation and expansion of community  
5 development corporations; and

6 (7) In that the farmworkers in this state benefit the social and economic welfare of all of the  
7 people in Oregon by their unceasing efforts to bring a bountiful crop to market, the Legislative  
8 Assembly declares that it is the policy of this state to ensure adequate accommodations  
9 commensurate with the housing needs of Oregon's farm workers that meet decent health, safety and  
10 welfare standards. To accomplish this objective in the interest of all of the people in this state, it  
11 is necessary that:

12 (a) Every state and local government agency that has powers, functions or duties with respect  
13 to housing, land use or enforcing health, safety or welfare standards, under this or any other law,  
14 shall exercise its powers, functions or duties consistently with state policy and in a manner that  
15 will facilitate sustained progress in attaining the objectives established;

16 (b) Every state and local government agency with jurisdiction over farmworker activities must  
17 make every effort to alleviate insanitary, unsafe and overcrowded accommodations;

18 (c) Special efforts should be directed toward mitigating hazards to families and children; and

19 (d) Accommodations must be designed to provide for the rights of free association to seasonal  
20 farmworkers.

21 **(8) Youth aging out of foster care experience particular difficulties in finding stable and**  
22 **affordable housing and particular vulnerabilities from homelessness. It is the policy of this**  
23 **state to ensure that funding is made available to support transitional housing for this popu-**  
24 **lation.**

25 **SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on December 31, 2020.**

26 **SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
27 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect**  
28 **on its passage.**

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