

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3445

Ordered by the House April 19
Including House Amendments dated April 19

Sponsored by Representatives GILLIAM, GALLEGOS; Representative WHISNANT (at the request of Catholic Community Services)

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.

[Requires Department of Human Services to determine whether there are alternative placement options for child or ward in department's custody before committing child or ward to residential care or residential treatment.]

[Directs department to use state and federal funds designated for residential care or residential treatment for certain services when implementing alternative placement option.]

Directs Department of Human Services to establish up to three community homes to implement community home model for children and wards in legal custody of department for care, placement and supervision. Authorizes department to contract with one or more nonprofit entities to establish community homes and provide services.

Requires department to evaluate community homes and report to Legislative Assembly on or before date of convening of 2015 regular session.

Appropriates moneys to department to establish community homes.

Sunsets June 30, 2015.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to placement of children in custody of the Department of Human Services; appropriating
3 money; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. The Legislative Assembly finds that:**

6 **(1) The community home model for placement of children and wards who are in the legal**
7 **custody of the Department of Human Services is a viable and compelling alternative place-**
8 **ment option to traditional foster care placements; and**

9 **(2) Pilot projects to establish up to three community homes that will implement the**
10 **community home model throughout this state will provide the department with the oppor-**
11 **tunity to evaluate the success and effectiveness of the community home model as an alter-**
12 **native placement option for children and wards in the legal custody of the department.**

13 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in sections 1 and 2 of this 2013 Act:**

14 **(a) "Community home" means a facility that implements and utilizes the community**
15 **home model for the placement of children and wards in the legal custody of the department.**

16 **(b) "Community home model" means a model for placement of a child or ward who is in**
17 **the legal custody of the Department of Human Services in a community home with other**
18 **children and wards, where the foster parent for the child or ward comes to the community**
19 **home to provide foster parent services and in which the child or ward and the foster parent**
20 **for the child or ward may receive one or more of the following services:**

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 (A) Mentoring;
- 2 (B) Tutoring;
- 3 (C) One-on-one supervision;
- 4 (D) Respite care;
- 5 (E) Assistance in locating immediate and extended family members;
- 6 (F) 24-hour, daily on-call caregiver support;
- 7 (G) Skill building;
- 8 (H) Counseling;
- 9 (I) Parent education and training;
- 10 (J) Foster parent education and training;
- 11 (K) Assistance in establishing support systems with neighbors; and
- 12 (L) Family-centered interventions, including but not limited to drug, alcohol and mental
- 13 health treatment.

14 (2) The department shall establish up to three community homes to implement the
15 community home model in this state for children and wards who have been placed in the
16 legal custody of the department for care, placement and supervision under ORS 419B.337.

17 (3) The department may contract with one or more nonprofit entities to establish and
18 implement the community homes and provide the community home model services required.

19 (4) The department shall study and perform an evaluation of the community homes es-
20 tablished, and the community home model implemented, under subsection (2) of this section.
21 The evaluation shall include but not be limited to a comparison of placement outcomes for
22 children and wards in the community homes as compared to children and wards in tradi-
23 tional foster homes, including but not limited to the following:

- 24 (a) The length of time a child or ward remains in a community home;
- 25 (b) The impact on a child's or ward's educational achievement and success;
- 26 (c) Emotional and social stability factors for children, wards and foster parents; and
- 27 (d) Factors that would impact the ability to replicate the community home model
- 28 throughout this state.

29 (5)(a) The department and a nonprofit entity with which the department has contracted
30 under this section may solicit and accept gifts, grants and donations from public and private
31 sources to further the purposes of this section.

32 (b) Moneys obtained by a nonprofit entity pursuant to solicitation and acceptance of gifts,
33 grants and donations by the nonprofit entity may be maintained, controlled and used for any
34 purpose deemed appropriate by the nonprofit entity to further the purposes of this section
35 without informing or obtaining the consent and approval of the department to receive and
36 use the moneys.

37 (c) The department may use any available state and federal funds that the department
38 deems appropriate to implement the provisions of this section.

39 (6) The department may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section.

40 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Human Services shall prepare and submit a report to the
41 standing and interim committees of the Legislative Assembly that have authority over the
42 subject areas of child welfare and juvenile dependency on or before the date of the convening
43 of the 2015 regular session of the Legislative Assembly as specified in ORS 171.010.

44 **SECTION 4.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
45 ated to the Department of Human Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2013, out of

1 the General Fund, the amount of \$120,000, which may be expended for the purposes of im-
2 plementing section 2 of this 2013 Act.

3 **SECTION 5.** Section 2 of this 2013 Act applies to children or wards who are in the legal
4 custody of the Department of Human Services for care, placement and supervision before,
5 on or after the effective date of this 2013 Act.

6 **SECTION 6.** Sections 1 and 2 of this 2013 Act are repealed on June 30, 2015.

7 **SECTION 7.** This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
8 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect
9 on its passage.

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