

House Bill 2171

Sponsored by Representative STARK, Senators ROBLAN, GELSER, Representative OLSON; Representatives JOHNSON, KENY-GUYER, MCLAIN, PILUSO, VIAL, WHISNANT, Senators BEYER, HANSELL, KRUSE, STEINER HAYWARD, TAYLOR, THOMSEN (Pre-session filed.)

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 Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service to maintain volunteer staff of court appointed special advocates sufficient to meet statutory requirement to appoint court appointed special advocate in every juvenile dependency proceeding. Requires commission to meet National CASA Association standards for number of court appointed special advocates and cases that are supervised at any one time by supervisors in CASA Volunteer Programs.

Appropriates moneys to commission for purpose of maintaining volunteer staff and supervisory levels.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2017.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to supervision of court appointed special advocates; creating new provisions; amending ORS
3 458.581; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 458.581 is amended to read:

6 458.581. (1) The Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service shall:

7 (a) Contract with all CASA Volunteer Programs in this state to recruit, train and supervise
8 court appointed special advocates.

9 (b) Disburse and expend moneys in the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund established un-
10 der ORS 458.584 for the purposes set forth in this section and ORS 419B.112.

11 (c) Oversee the provision of court appointed special advocate services throughout this state in
12 a uniform, consistent and cost-efficient manner by ensuring that CASA Volunteer Programs:

13 (A) Adopt policies, procedures, standards and guidelines regarding the provision of court ap-
14 pointed special advocate services as directed by the commission; *[and]*

15 (B) Develop and provide training and education for court appointed special advocates and em-
16 ployees and other volunteers in CASA Volunteer Programs as directed by the commission; **and**

17 **(C) Maintain a volunteer staff of court appointed special advocates that:**

18 **(i) Is sufficient to meet the requirement of ORS 419B.112 that courts shall appoint a**
19 **court appointed special advocate in every case under ORS chapter 419B; and**

20 **(ii) Meets the standards of the National CASA Association, which provide that each**
21 **supervisor in a program shall supervise no more than 30 court appointed special advocates**
22 **with responsibility for no more than 45 individual cases at any one time.**

23 (d) Identify statewide outcome or performance measures for CASA Volunteer Programs.

24 (e) Collect, evaluate and summarize data regarding CASA Volunteer Programs and court ap-
25 pointed special advocate services in this state.

26 (f) Adopt rules for carrying out the commission's responsibilities, duties and functions under this
27 section and ORS 419B.112.

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 (2) The commission may:

2 (a) Delegate to public agencies or private nonprofit organizations the responsibility to, or con-
3 tract with public agencies or private nonprofit organizations to:

4 (A) Create, supervise and operate CASA Volunteer Programs throughout this state; and

5 (B) Develop and provide training for court appointed special advocates and employees and vol-
6 unteers of CASA Volunteer Programs.

7 (b) Consult with public agencies or private nonprofit organizations for the purpose of developing:

8 (A) An allocation formula for the disbursement of moneys to CASA Volunteer Programs in this
9 state; and

10 (B) Policies, procedures, standards and guidelines regarding the provision of court appointed
11 special advocate services in this state.

12 (c) Apply for and receive funds from state, federal and private sources for CASA Volunteer
13 Programs and the provision of court appointed special advocate services in this state.

14 (3) Public agencies or private nonprofit organizations to whom the commission has delegated
15 responsibilities, or with whom the commission has contracted, under this section shall provide
16 biannual reports to the commission regarding:

17 (a) The fulfillment of responsibilities that have been delegated or contracted for; and

18 (b) When applicable to responsibilities delegated or contracted for, the achievement of the ob-
19 jectives in subsection (1)(c) to (f) of this section.

20 (4) The commission shall report annually to committees or interim committees of the Legislative
21 Assembly related to the provision of court appointed special advocate services regarding the dis-
22 bursement of moneys in the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund established under ORS 458.584,
23 the extent to which statewide outcome or performance measures identified under subsection (1)(d)
24 of this section are being met and the current status of court appointed special advocate services
25 provided in this state.

26 **SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
27 **ated to the Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service, for the**
28 **biennium beginning July 1, 2017, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____ for the**
29 **CASA Volunteer Programs in this state for the purpose of complying with the requirements**
30 **of ORS 419B.112 and meeting National CASA Association supervisory levels as set forth in**
31 **ORS 458.581 (1)(c)(C).**

32 **SECTION 3. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
33 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect**
34 **July 1, 2017.**