

## HB 2916 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Housing

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**Prepared By:** C. Ross, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 4/22

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Lifts limitation on size of transitional housing camp established within an urban growth boundary. Expands use of such housing to include individuals who lack safe accommodations. Expresses intent that such housing is temporary and may include yurts, huts, tents and other fabric and similar structures. Makes provision of parking and walkways discretionary. Removes requirement that yurts be subject to specialty building codes applicable to manufactured structures. Removes application of recreation park specialty code to shared facilities. Permits Oregon Health Authority to develop best practices for public health. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

##### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

[-A4 amendment, 04-18-19] Makes a couple of corrections.

##### **BACKGROUND:**

Transitional housing generally refers to temporary accommodations that provide additional services, such as reintegration and employment support for individuals successfully released from incarceration, or residential treatment settings for individuals with behavioral health concerns, or supported camps for individuals experiencing homelessness. Transitional housing programs typically provide shelter while attempting to assist residents with more permanent, affordable housing.

Municipalities in Oregon are currently authorized to provide transitional housing for persons who lack permanent housing but for whom there is no available low-income housing alternative, in the form of campgrounds within their urban growth boundaries. Currently, such sites may consist of separate yurt structures for use as living units by one or more individuals or families; are required to provide parking and walkways; may provide other services such as telephone, water, toilets, showers, and laundry; and the municipality is authorized to limit the duration of a resident's stay. Current law also limits the size of such campgrounds to two parcels and specifies they should be sited near grocery stores and public transportation. Any shared water, toilet, shower, laundry, or cooking facilities are regulated by provisions governing state recreational areas, and Oregon's 2017 Transitional Housing Standard (model building codes available for adoption by municipalities) contains suggested construction standards for their establishment.

House Bill 2916-A refines provisions applicable to transitional housing campgrounds to support their establishment. It allows persons without safe housing to be included among other eligible residents. It lifts the two-parcel limitation on size. It allows yurts to be exempt from specialty codes applicable to manufactured structures. It expresses the intent that such housing is for temporary seasonal or emergency use, and that it may include all manner of fabric and similar structures in addition to yurts. Parking and walkways are no longer mandatory, and the Oregon Health Authority is authorized to develop public health standards instead of making shared services subject to provisions that apply to recreational areas.

*Unanimous out of House committee; 2 no votes off House floor.*