

# House Bill 2824

Sponsored by Representatives SOLLMAN, HELM, DOHERTY, EVANS, Senator RILEY; Representatives MCLAIN, REARDON, Senator WAGNER

## 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 Council. Directs council to advise Governor on issues affecting youth, including civic engagement, education and youth violence.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to a Governor's advisory board on youth; creating new provisions; and amending ORS  
3 185.005.

4 Whereas youth across the State of Oregon are community residents, students and leaders; and

5 Whereas youth are acutely aware of the challenges that face Oregon schools and are therefore  
6 uniquely positioned to develop creative solutions to ensure that Oregon provides top-notch education  
7 to all of its students; and

8 Whereas youth violence affects communities, families and schools across this state, claiming  
9 lives and causing immeasurable pain to victims and their families; and

10 Whereas youth are motivated to get involved in their communities and are eager for civic en-  
11 gagement opportunities; and

12 Whereas providing opportunities for the youth of Oregon to address the problems facing Oregon  
13 communities through assuming leadership roles, working together and cultivating problem-solving  
14 skills will ensure a stronger workforce and democracy for the future; and

15 Whereas, notwithstanding their ideas, energy and commitment, too often the voices of Oregon  
16 youth are not heard; and

17 Whereas the formation of a youth advisory council will serve to give voice to youth, their cre-  
18 ativity and their energy; now, therefore,

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

20 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Youth Council is created. The council shall consist of no**  
21 **more than 30 members, and no more than one from each Senate district, to be appointed by**  
22 **the Governor.**

23 **(2) The term of office is two years. Appointments to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term**  
24 **shall be made by the Governor.**

25 **(3) A council member must be between ages 14 and 20 years old and must have submitted**  
26 **an application for the council with the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office. The application**  
27 **must be on the form and contain the information required by the office, including:**

28 **(a) A personal essay; and**

29 **(b) A letter of reference from an adult familiar with the applicant's strengths and inter-**  
30 **ests, including but not limited to a youth organization leader, teacher or other school official.**

31 **(4) All members of the council shall serve in an advisory capacity and at the pleasure of**

**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 the Governor. A member of the council may not receive compensation for serving on the  
2 council.

3 (5) The Governor shall appoint a chair and vice-chair of the council from among its  
4 members.

5 (6) The Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office shall supply an adviser to the council. The  
6 adviser shall schedule council meetings at least six times per year and shall attend each  
7 meeting.

8 **SECTION 2.** (1) The Oregon Youth Council shall advise the Governor on issues that the  
9 youth of this state are uniquely positioned to address, including but not limited to civic en-  
10 gagement, education and youth violence.

11 (2) The council may review existing or proposed policies in any area of state or local  
12 government and advise on how the policies may be revised to better serve youth.

13 **SECTION 3.** ORS 185.005 is amended to read:

14 185.005. The Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office is established to provide administrative sup-  
15 port to:

- 16 (1) The Commission on Hispanic Affairs;
  - 17 (2) The Commission on Black Affairs;
  - 18 (3) The Commission for Women; *[and]*
  - 19 (4) The Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs; **and**
  - 20 (5) **The Oregon Youth Council.**
- 21 \_\_\_\_\_