

Senate Bill 606

Sponsored by Senator WINTERS (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**.

Establishes Domestic Violence Committee within Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to study and make recommendations on ways to improve criminal justice system response to domestic violence in state.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to domestic violence; creating new provisions; amending ORS 137.651; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

6 (a) **"Domestic violence" means abuse, as defined in ORS 107.705.**

7 (b) **"Victim of domestic violence" means an individual against whom domestic violence
8 has been committed.**

9 (2) **The Domestic Violence Committee is established within the Oregon Criminal Justice
10 Commission.**

11 (3) **The committee consists of 10 members appointed as follows:**

12 (a) **The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the
13 Senate.**

14 (b) **The Senate Minority Leader shall appoint one member from among members of the
15 Senate.**

16 (c) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among
17 members of the House of Representatives.**

18 (d) **The House Minority Leader shall appoint one member from among members of the
19 House of Representatives.**

20 (e) **The Governor shall appoint six members who are subject to confirmation by the
21 Senate pursuant to Article III, section 4, of the Oregon Constitution, and who are from
22 among the following with expertise in areas of domestic violence or in providing resources
23 and services in response to domestic violence in this state:**

24 (A) **One individual who represents law enforcement.**

25 (B) **One attorney who commonly works on domestic violence cases.**

26 (C) **One therapist who treats victims of domestic violence.**

27 (D) **One individual who represents advocates that typically work with victims of domestic
28 violence, including health care providers and emergency housing providers.**

29 (E) **One judicial policy expert.**

30 (F) **One individual who represents domestic violence shelters.**

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 (4)(a) The committee shall undertake the following tasks and provide the following in-
 2 formed, data-driven recommendations for improvements to domestic violence prevention and
 3 services in the criminal justice system:

4 (A) Review this state's laws regarding domestic violence and make recommendations to
 5 resolve statutory and administrative inconsistencies;

6 (B) Make recommendations to members of the criminal justice system regarding im-
 7 provements to procedures involving domestic violence;

8 (C) Make recommendations for improvement of criminal justice system practices that
 9 hinder a victim of domestic violence from getting to safety and security; and

10 (D) Study and make recommendations to improve any other aspects of the criminal jus-
 11 tice system that do not prevent or ameliorate domestic violence.

12 (b) To the extent practicable, the committee shall consult with and engage domestic vi-
 13 olence stakeholders, including members of the criminal justice system, in the development
 14 of the committee's recommendations under this subsection.

15 (5) The committee chairperson may create any subcommittees within the committee as
 16 the chairperson considers necessary.

17 (6) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the committee are nonvoting
 18 members of the committee and may act in an advisory capacity only.

19 (7) A majority of the voting members of the committee constitutes a quorum for the
 20 transaction of business.

21 (8) Official action by the committee requires the approval of a majority of the voting
 22 members of the committee.

23 (9) The committee shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

24 (10) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
 25 ment to become immediately effective.

26 (11) The committee shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
 27 or of a majority of the voting members of the committee.

28 (12) The committee may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the committee.

29 (13) The committee shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
 30 may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim legislative committees related
 31 to human services, judiciary, domestic relations and domestic violence no later than Sep-
 32 tember 15 of each even-numbered year.

33 (14) The commission shall provide staff support to the committee.

34 (15) The committee shall meet at least once a month, at a time and place determined by
 35 the committee. The committee shall also meet at such other times and places are specified
 36 by a call of the committee chairperson. If a majority of the voting members, in writing, re-
 37 quests a special meeting, the committee chairperson shall designate a time for a special
 38 meeting as requested.

39 **SECTION 2.** ORS 137.651 is amended to read:

40 137.651. As used in ORS 137.654, 137.656 and 137.658 and section 1 of this 2019 Act:

41 (1) "Commission" means the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.

42 (2) "Criminal justice system" includes all activities and agencies, whether state or local, public
 43 or private, pertaining to the prevention, prosecution and defense of offenses, the disposition of
 44 offenders under the criminal law and the disposition or treatment of juveniles adjudicated to have
 45 committed an act which, if committed by an adult, would be a crime. [*The*] "Criminal justice

1 system” includes police, public prosecutors, defense counsel, courts, correction systems, mental
2 health agencies, crime victims and all public and private agencies providing services in connection
3 with those elements, whether voluntarily, contractually or by order of a court.

4 **SECTION 3. The report described in section 1 (13) of this 2019 Act is first due no later**
5 **than September 15, 2020.**

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

9
