

HB 2834 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery

Prepared By: C. Ross, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 5/11, 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adjusts composition of the Oregon Hunger Task Force to include an additional legislator, nine members from advocacy organizations that serve people affected by hunger, and nine members who currently experience hunger or food insecurity due to racial or ethnic discrimination or inadequate resources, as specified. Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) to consider demographic and geographic diversity when appointing members from advocacy organizations. Prohibits legislator members from voting. Changes quorum requirement from half, to a majority of members. Clarifies reappointment. Reconstitutes membership with expiration of current members' terms of office on June 30, 2022; specifies all are eligible for reappointment; staggers expiration of new terms of office; and repeals reconstitution provisions January 2, 2026.

House committee: 6-1

House floor: 55-2-3

Fiscal impact issued (impact anticipated to be minimal); no revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Task force history and longstanding collaborative efforts
- Update for more equitable representation requested by task force
- Need for more representation from impacted communities in particular
- Provisions of complimentary measure, House Bill 2833

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Hunger Task Force was created by the legislature in 1989. It is comprised of 28 members who are appointed by the Department of Human Services (DHS) in consultation with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). It raises awareness about the extent of hunger in the state, coordinates food and nutrition services, and recommends government action to alleviate hunger. Currently, four members are legislators; five are from identified executive branch agencies; three are from identified nonprofit organizations; ten members, one each, represent county government, low-income populations, migrants, college students, the retail food industry, food growing and processing industries, direct service providers, and three religious communities; and the balance of no more than six additional members represent other interests not already specified.

House Bill 2834 A adjusts the composition of the Oregon Hunger Task Force starting July 1, 2022: it retains five members from named executive branch agencies; includes another legislator for a total of five; requires nine

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members from advocacy organizations that serve people affected by hunger; and requires an equal number of nine individuals who experience hunger. The overall result is approximately one-third representation each: from communities most impacted by food insecurity, from key advocacy groups, and from legislative and executive branches of government. The measure also requires DHS to consider demographic and geographic diversity when appointing members from advocacy groups; requires a majority of members, rather than half, for a quorum to take action; and prohibits legislative members from voting.