

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2605

By COMMITTEE ON RULES

April 4

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “journalism” delete the rest of the line and insert a
2 period.

3 Delete lines 4 through 30 and delete pages 2 and 3 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall issue grants**
5 **to the recipients specified in this subsection. Prior to disbursing grant moneys, the depart-**
6 **ment shall execute a grant agreement with the recipients requiring the recipients to carry**
7 **out the duties set forth in this section. The department shall issue grants to:**

8 **“(a) The University of Oregon for the Agora Journalism Center; and**

9 **“(b) The Fund for Oregon Rural Journalism.**

10 **“(2) The recipients shall convene a work group that, to the greatest extent possible, in-**
11 **cludes representation of all of the following:**

12 **“(a) Organizations supporting local journalism or representing local journalistic publica-**
13 **tions in Oregon;**

14 **“(b) Academic departments related to journalism;**

15 **“(c) Nonprofit organizations performing work related to journalism;**

16 **“(d) The philanthropic sector; and**

17 **“(e) Civic organizations in Oregon.**

18 **“(3) The work group shall:**

19 **“(a) Define and identify the attributes of Oregon’s local journalistic publications;**

20 **“(b) Research local news and information ecosystems across this state, especially those**
21 **serving rural, underserved and other hard-to-reach communities, including multilingual,**
22 **non-English and ethnically specific media ecosystems; and**

23 **“(c) Identify and amplify community-centered, solutions-oriented journalism within and**
24 **outside of this state and beyond to serve as models for other communities to replicate.**

25 **“(4) On or before December 1, 2024, the work group shall prepare and make publicly**
26 **available a report on its findings, which may include recommendations for legislation.**

27 **“(5) The work group shall create a local journalism resource center to provide resources**
28 **to support local journalism, including:**

29 **“(a) Connecting publishers with local or nationwide resources for assistance, training,**
30 **collaborations and philanthropic opportunities;**

31 **“(b) Providing short-term grants for tools and technology to support sustainability and**
32 **growth of local journalism; and**

33 **“(c) Placing journalists to provide local news in communities underserved by local**
34 **journalism.**

35 **“(6) The work group shall develop and implement a program to issue subgrants to fund**

1 initiatives to meet the local information needs of communities in Oregon. The work group
2 shall develop and publish application procedures and selection criteria for such subgrants.
3 The work group shall fund subgrants out of moneys granted under this section.

4 **“SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2026.

5 **“SECTION 3.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appro-
6 priated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the biennium beginning
7 July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,900,000 to issue grants under section
8 1 of this 2023 Act in the following amounts:

9 **“(1)** \$1,210,000 for the University of Oregon for the Agora Journalism Center; and

10 **“(2)** \$1,690,000 for the Fund for Oregon Rural Journalism.”.

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