

House Bill 2933

Sponsored by Representatives MORGAN, LEVY B; Representatives HUDSON, LEWIS, RESCHKE, REYNOLDS, SCHARF, SMITH DB, WRIGHT, Senators DEMBROW, HANSELL, SOLLMAN (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**.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of Justice for deposit into Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to domestic violence; and declaring an emergency.

3 Whereas domestic violence hotlines are lifelines for victims in danger, providing support, infor-
4 mation, safety planning and resources via phone chat, text and email; and

5 Whereas according to the National Network to End Domestic Violence 2021 Annual Domestic
6 Violence Counts Report, 1,110 victims were served in one day: 622 adult and child victims of do-
7 mestic violence found refuge in emergency shelters, transitional housing, hotels, motels or other
8 housing provided by local domestic violence programs and 478 nonresidential adult and child victims
9 received supportive services including counseling, legal advocacy and support groups; and

10 Whereas the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence reports that on average, nearly 20
11 people per minute, or more than 10 million individuals per year, are physically abused by an inti-
12 mate partner in the United States; and

13 Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly
14 Report states an estimated 51.3% of black adult female homicides are related to intimate partner
15 violence; and

16 Whereas the United States Department of Justice reports that the national annual incidence
17 rates and lifetime prevalence rates for physical assaults are also higher for American Indian and
18 Alaskan Native women compared to other women; and

19 Whereas the Violence Policy Center reported that 72 percent of all murder-suicides involve an
20 intimate partner and 94 percent of the victims of these murder suicides are female; and

21 Whereas according to the American Psychological Association, victims of intimate partner vi-
22 olence lose a total of 8 million days of paid work each year; and

23 Whereas women in Oregon face some of the highest rates of sexual assault in the United States;
24 and

25 Whereas more than 27 percent of women in the state have been raped, and 55.7 percent have
26 been the victim of sexual violence other than rape, according to data from the Centers for Disease
27 Control and Prevention; and

28 Whereas the 2021-2022 Oregon Department of Justice's Statewide Data for Domestic and Sexual
29 Violence Advocacy Services reported that funding for the last fiscal year provided over 160,000
30 nights of emergency shelter and 6,610 unmet requests for shelter were documented; and

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 Whereas this same report documented that advocates answered over 90,941 crisis calls that were
2 received from survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and other related crises and
3 over 27,000 victims received safety planning and advocacy services; and

4 Whereas community-based and culturally responsive domestic and sexual violence programs
5 across the state of Oregon provide supportive, trauma-informed services to victims and survivors of
6 domestic and sexual violence; and

7 Whereas the need for these supportive services continues to grow and the burden of essential
8 service provision is challenged by staffing shortages, lack of funding and other obstacles; and

9 Whereas for many organizations, direct service staff are paid just above minimum wage and
10 there is a high rate of turnover among positions; and

11 Whereas a long-term investment in the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund
12 will provide the resources to further develop capacity and build a statewide infrastructure designed
13 for sustainability and equity in domestic and sexual violence advocacy services and will also add
14 strength to and expand the network of organizations that provide culturally specific advocacy ser-
15 vices to survivors; and

16 Whereas a permanent increase is necessary to meet the rising and ever-present demand for ad-
17 vocacy services, to offer wages comparable to government and business sectors and to recruit and
18 retain skilled workers and administrators; now, therefore,

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

20 **SECTION 1. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
21 **ated to the Department of Justice, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the Gen-**
22 **eral Fund, the amount of \$10,000,000, for deposit in the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence**
23 **Services Fund established under ORS 147.453.**

24 **SECTION 2. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
25 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect**
26 **July 1, 2023.**