

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2957

Ordered by the House March 31
Including House Amendments dated March 31

Sponsored by Representatives RUIZ, ANDERSEN; Representatives HUDSON, NERON, NGUYEN H, NOSSE, PHAM K, SOSA (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.

Directs Department of Human Services to establish program to *[distribute funds to community-based organizations to provide financial assistance to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals status recipients for specified purposes]* **provide grants to assist noncitizens who do not possess valid immigration documentation change immigration status or obtain lawful permanent resident status.**

Sunset January 2, 2026.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to immigration; and prescribing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. (1)(a) The Department of Human Services shall establish a program to provide grants to assist noncitizens who do not possess valid immigration documentation change immigration status or obtain lawful permanent resident status.

(b) In establishing the program, the department shall consult with community-based organizations that have connections to or experience working with immigrants or immigrant populations.

(2) Under the program:

(a) The department shall distribute funds to community-based organizations to administer and provide grants up to the amounts for which individuals are eligible under subsection (3) of this section.

(b) A grant must be used to cover the costs of immigration legal services or United States Citizenship and Immigration Services fees associated with the process for changing an immigration status or obtaining a lawful permanent resident status.

(c) Grant moneys shall be paid on behalf of a grant recipient to an immigration legal services provider that has been approved by the department or to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(d) An individual may be awarded no more than one grant.

(3) An individual shall be eligible for a grant in the following amounts:

(a) \$1,500 for an individual who has an annual gross income for the prior tax year that is not greater than \$60,000.

(b) \$1,000 for an individual who has an annual gross income for the prior tax year that is greater than \$60,000 and not greater than \$70,000.

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 (c) \$750 for an individual who has an annual gross income for the prior tax year that is
2 greater than \$70,000 and not greater than \$80,000.

3 (4) The department shall prescribe the form and manner in which an individual may apply
4 for a grant under the program.

5 (5) The department may, in consultation with the community-based organizations de-
6 scribed under subsection (1)(b) of this section, establish eligibility criteria that an individual
7 must meet to qualify for a grant under the program.

8 (6) The department may adopt rules to carry out this section.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated to the Department of Human Services, for the
10 biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$7,000,000, to be
11 used to provide grants under the program established under section 1 of this 2023 Act.

12 SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2026.

13 SECTION 4. This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023
14 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

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