

Senate Bill 597

Sponsored by Senator TAYLOR (Presession 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**.

Directs certifying agencies to report annually to Oregon Criminal Justice Commission on victim helpfulness certification requests. Directs commission to prepare comprehensive report within 90 days and submit report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to judiciary.

Sunset on January 2, 2027.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to victim helpfulness certifications; and prescribing an effective date.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1)(a) No later than June 1 of each year, a certifying agency shall report to**
5 **the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, in the manner described in this subsection, on**
6 **certification requests under ORS 147.620 received by the agency during the previous calendar**
7 **year.**

8 **(b) A report required under this subsection shall be in a format specified by the com-**
9 **mission by rule and must include the following information:**

10 **(A) The total number, within the previous year, of certification requests received, re-**
11 **quests granted and requests denied, and the number of pending certifications on the date of**
12 **the report; and**

13 **(B) For denied certification requests, the number of times each of the following were the**
14 **reason for the denial:**

15 **(i) Lack of qualifying criminal activity;**

16 **(ii) Lack of helpfulness;**

17 **(iii) Lack of jurisdiction over certification request; or**

18 **(iv) Other circumstances for which a certifying official or agency may lawfully deny**
19 **certification.**

20 **(c) A report made under this subsection may not contain any personally identifying in-**
21 **formation.**

22 **(d) A certifying agency that did not receive any certification requests during the previous**
23 **calendar year must report to the commission that the certifying agency received zero re-**
24 **quests.**

25 **(2) The commission shall maintain a list of certifying agencies other than individual**
26 **judges within this state in order to monitor compliance with the reporting requirement de-**
27 **scribed in subsection (1) of this section.**

28 **(3)(a) Within 90 days of receiving reports under subsection (1) of this section, the com-**
29 **mission shall prepare a comprehensive report on the certification process within this state**
30 **and submit the comprehensive report, in the manner described in ORS 192.245, to the interim**

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 committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the judiciary. The report shall identify any
2 certifying agency that did not submit a report as required by subsection (1) of this section.

3 (b) Notwithstanding ORS 147.620 (8)(b), in preparing the report under paragraph (a) of
4 this subsection, the commission may request, from a certifying agency or official, copies of
5 denial notifications containing personally identifying information if the information is needed
6 in order to prepare an accurate report. The certifying agency or official shall provide the
7 denial notification to the commission on request. A denial notification received under this
8 paragraph is confidential.

9 SECTION 2. For the report required under section 1 (1) of this 2023 Act that is due June
10 1, 2024, a certifying agency shall include the information required by section 1 (1) of this 2023
11 Act for the 2022 and 2023 calendar years.

12 SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.

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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