

Senate Bill 612

Sponsored by Senators CAMPOS, JAMA, Representatives VALDERRAMA, HARTMAN; Senators MANNING JR, PATTERSON, Representative PHAM K (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**.

Establishes Indigenous Language Justice Fund. Requires nonprofit organization in this state to serve as fiscal agent to receive disbursement of moneys for purposes related to supporting Indigenous languages interpretation in this state. Requires fiscal agent to annually report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly related to language interpretation services.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to Indigenous languages.

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

3 **SECTION 1. The Indigenous Language Justice Fund is established in the State Treasury,**
4 **separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Indigenous Language**
5 **Justice Fund shall be credited to the fund. Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated**
6 **to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for the purpose of disbursement to the**
7 **fiscal agent described in section 2 of this 2023 Act for supporting Indigenous languages in-**
8 **terpretation in this state.**

9 **SECTION 2. (1) A nonprofit organization registered in this state that addresses and exe-**
10 **cutes worker relief as the organization's primary purpose shall serve as the fiscal agent to**
11 **the Indigenous Language Justice Fund established under section 1 of this 2023 Act. Moneys**
12 **must be allocated for purposes including, but not limited to:**

13 (a) **The development of evaluation mechanisms, standards and guidelines for Indigenous**
14 **languages interpretation; and**

15 (b) **Compensation for Indigenous languages interpreters.**

16 (2) **Not later than August 31 of each year, the fiscal agent described in subsection (1) of**
17 **this section shall submit, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, to an interim committee**
18 **of the Legislative Assembly related to language interpretation services, a report on the use**
19 **of moneys allocated under subsection (1) of this section.**

20 **SECTION 3. The fiscal agent described in section 2 of this 2023 Act shall make the first**
21 **report described in section 2 of this 2023 Act no later than August 31, 2024.**

22 **SECTION 4. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
23 **ated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the biennium beginning July**
24 **1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$10,000,000, for deposit in the Indigenous**
25 **Language Justice Fund established under section 1 of this 2023 Act and disbursement to the**
26 **fiscal agent described in section 2 of this 2023 Act.**

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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.