

# House Bill 4159

Sponsored by Representatives NGUYEN H, TRAN, NERON; Representatives CHAICHI, GAMBA, GRAYBER, HARTMAN, HUDSON, PHAM H, REYNOLDS, Senators DEMBROW, GELSER BLOUIN, JAMA, MANNING JR (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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

**Digest:** Makes the office charged with helping persons who are new to the U.S. and Oregon award contracts to entities to provide the persons with support services. Creates a council to advise the office on the support services. Makes the office conduct an annual audit of groups providing the support services. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.3).

Requires the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement to contract with entities to provide eligible newcomers with case management, short-term and long-term support services. Defines "eligible newcomers."

Creates an advisory council to serve as a forum for sharing information and to advise the office on the provision of the support services. Directs the office to conduct an annual performance audit of each entity contracted by the office to provide the support services.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to support services; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "eligible newcomer" means:**

5 **(a) An individual who:**

6 **(A) Is not a United States citizen;**

7 **(B) Is not receiving support services under an eligible immigration status designated by**  
8 **the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement;**

9 **(C) Has been in the United States for 24 months or less; and**

10 **(D) Has been residing in Oregon for 18 months or less.**

11 **(b) A minor child, who is residing in Oregon, of an individual described in paragraph (a)**  
12 **of this subsection.**

13 **(2) The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement shall, in consultation with the**  
14 **Department of Human Services, coordinate with community-based organizations and award**  
15 **contracts to entities to equitably provide eligible newcomers with the following support ser-**  
16 **vices:**

17 **(a) Streamlined intake, initial reception and case management services.**

18 **(b) Short-term wraparound support services, including shelter, food, clothing, health care**  
19 **and transportation.**

20 **(c) Long-term support services related to housing, education, employment, leadership**  
21 **development and technology.**

22 **(3) The support services provided under this section must be provided in a manner that**  
23 **is equitable and culturally and linguistically appropriate.**

24 **(4) An eligible newcomer who receives support services under this section may receive:**

**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 (a) Case management services for a period of up to 15 months from when the eligible  
2 newcomer first receives case management services.

3 (b) Housing or rental assistance for a period of up to 12 months from when the eligible  
4 newcomer first receives housing or rental assistance.

5 (5) An entity that is awarded a contract to provide support services under this section  
6 shall:

7 (a) Assist eligible newcomers in accessing, to the greatest extent possible, existing fed-  
8 eral, state and local support services and programs to receive the support services provided  
9 under this section;

10 (b) Provide eligible newcomers with those support services that eligible newcomers are  
11 unable to access through existing federal, state or local support services and programs; and

12 (c) Coordinate with and work collaboratively with all entities that are awarded a contract  
13 under this section.

14 (6)(a) The office shall award contracts under this section by using a competitive request  
15 for proposal process.

16 (b) Funding awarded under a contract shall be used to provide support services under the  
17 contract to eligible newcomers and the contract shall specify the percentage or amount of  
18 funding that may be used to cover an entity's administrative costs in providing the support  
19 services.

20 (c) Funding under a contract shall be on a per person basis based on the number of  
21 persons for whom the contracted entity provides support services, except for funding for  
22 housing or rental assistance, a family consisting of two persons shall count as one person.

23 (7) An entity that has an active contract under this section shall:

24 (a) For the purpose of improving the delivery of support services, outcomes and prac-  
25 tices, conduct an annual survey of the eligible newcomers served by the entity;

26 (b) Provide a summary of the annual survey to the office and the advisory council cre-  
27 ated under section 3 of this 2024 Act; and

28 (c) Make public the summary of the annual survey.

29 (8) In carrying the provisions of this section, the office shall consult with the Department  
30 of Human Services.

31 **SECTION 2.** The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement shall require an annual  
32 performance audit of each entity that has an active contract with the office under section 1  
33 of this 2024 Act to evaluate compliance with the contract and the financial effectiveness with  
34 which the contracted entity provides support services under the contract. The office shall  
35 provide a copy of each audit to the advisory council created under section 3 of this 2024 Act.

36 **SECTION 3.** (1) There is created an advisory council that shall consist of at least seven,  
37 but not more than 11, members. Members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure  
38 of the director of the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement. The advisory council  
39 shall be composed of representatives from:

40 (a) Entities contracted under section 1 of this 2024 Act;

41 (b) Community-based organizations that serve immigrant or refugee communities;

42 (c) Immigrant and refugee communities;

43 (d) City and county governments; and

44 (e) The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement.

45 (2) The advisory council shall:

1 (a) Serve as a forum for sharing information and recommendations on providing support  
2 services;

3 (b) Serve as a channel of communication between eligible newcomers being served under  
4 section 1 of this 2024 Act and the office;

5 (c) Review the summaries of annual surveys and audits provided to the advisory council  
6 under sections 1 and 2 of this 2024 Act; and

7 (d) Advise and make policy recommendations to the office regarding the delivery of sup-  
8 port services, outcomes, financial effectiveness and use of best practices.

9 (3) Members of the advisory council may elect a person from among the membership to  
10 chair the advisory council.

11 (4) A majority of members of the advisory council constitutes a quorum for the trans-  
12 action of business.

13 (5) The advisory council shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the  
14 chairperson or of a majority of members of the advisory council and shall meet at least once  
15 every six months.

16 (6) Members of the advisory council may not receive compensation for their services.  
17 Members of the advisory council other than members employed in full-time public service  
18 shall be reimbursed by the office for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the  
19 performance of their duties. The reimbursements shall be subject to the provisions of ORS  
20 292.210 to 292.288. Members of the advisory council who are employed in full-time public  
21 service may be reimbursed by their employing agencies for their actual and necessary ex-  
22 penses incurred in the performance of their duties.

23 **SECTION 4.** This 2024 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
24 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2024 Act takes effect  
25 on its passage.

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