

HB 2139 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

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Meeting Dates: 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Housing and Community Services Department to study housing and report to the legislature by September 15, 2026.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Directs the Housing and Community Services Department to make grants to federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon for providing affordable housing, rental assistance, down payment and homeownership assistance, emergency housing assistance or shelter to tribal communities, as well as other actions to address homelessness, housing stabilization, homeownership development and affordable housing in tribal communities. Specifies grant eligibility requirements and administration requirements for the grant program by the Housing and Community Services Department.

Establishes the Tribal Housing Grant Fund to award and administer the grants for federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon for providing affordable housing, rental assistance, down payment and homeownership assistance, emergency housing assistance or shelter to tribal communities.

Appropriates \$12,767,376 General Fund to the Tribal Housing Grant Fund for the 2025-2027 biennium.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) Department is the state's housing finance agency and plays a key role in addressing housing and community development needs. OHCS administers federal and state funding programs to develop and preserve affordable rental housing. It also provides loans, grants, and tax credits (e.g., Low-Income Housing Tax Credit) to developers and nonprofits. OHCS manages first-time homebuyer programs, down payment assistance, and mortgage support, and oversees foreclosure prevention programs and home loan assistance initiatives. It coordinates efforts to prevent and reduce homelessness through grants and partnerships with local service providers and manages emergency shelter and rapid rehousing programs. The department also administers rental assistance programs such as Section 8 and the Oregon Emergency Rental Assistance Program and provides funding to local agencies that assist tenants facing eviction.