

SB 771 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Action Date: 03/04/25

Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Bonham, Hayden, Pham, Taylor, Woods

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Whitney Perez, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/25, 3/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Business Development Department (department) to develop and administer a program for awarding grants to community-based rodeo organizations for capital expenses. The measure specifies that a rodeo organization is eligible for this grant if the rodeo organization is based in a community with a population of 12,000 or less. The measure limits grant amounts to no greater than \$250,000 for a rodeo organization. The measure specifies what grant moneys may and may not be used for. The measure requires creation of a grant agreement prior to distribution of grant funds to a successful grant applicant. The measure specifies that a rodeo organization becomes liable for repayment of grant moneys if the moneys are used for any purpose that is not set forth in the grant agreement.

The measure also specifies that if a rodeo organization willfully makes a false statement or misrepresentation or willfully fails to report a material fact to obtain a grant, the department may add a penalty not to exceed 20 percent of the principal amount of the grant. Grant amounts subject to repayment are assigned to the Department of Revenue for collection. Sunsets on January 2, 2027. Appropriates \$5,000,000 to the department from the General Fund for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Amount of grants
- Rodeos in Oregon that may benefit from the grant program
- Categories of rodeos in Oregon

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Business Development Department (Department) has many responsibilities, one of which is coordinating state and federal economic and community development programs. The department currently administers over 80 grant, loan, tax incentive, and other related programs in Oregon. The Oregon Business Development Commission (Commission) provides oversight and direction to the department. The Commission consists of nine members, with most members serving four-year terms.

Rodeo is a competitive sport that rose out of the working practices of cattle herding. Today, rodeos consist of events that involve horses and other livestock, designed to test the skill and speed of the athletes who participate. In 2013, the Legislative Assembly enacted Senate Bill 835 which, in part, prohibits treating rodeos less favorably than other organized events or exhibitions.

Senate Bill 771 directs the Oregon Business Development Department to develop and administer a program for awarding grants to community-based rodeo organizations for capital expenses.