

HB 3970 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Carrier:** Rep. Levy E**House Committee On Rules****Action Date:** 06/17/25**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)**Vote:** 6-0-1-0**Yeas:** 6 - Bowman, Drazan, Elmer, Kropf, Pham H, Valderrama**Exc:** 1 - Boshart Davis**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Taylor Bickel**Meeting Dates:** 6/2, 6/17**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure expands eligibility for emergency housing assistance for individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless to include those who are pregnant or have children between the ages of birth and five. The measure declares an emergency and is effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment removes the provision that requires the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) and the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS) submit recommendations to the Governor's recommended budget regarding adequate funding for youth homelessness services. The amendment removes sections directing specified state agencies to administer new grants programs and removes appropriations for the funding of the grant programs.

BACKGROUND:

[ORS 458.650](#) directs the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department (OHCS) to administer the Emergency Housing Account to assist specified individuals from vulnerable populations who are or at risk of becoming homeless. Distribution of grant funds from the account is overseen and directed by the Housing Stability Council. [House Bill 2001 \(2023\)](#) expanded uses of the Emergency Housing Account funds to include services and assistance to school-aged children or their families experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. The [Youth Emergency Housing Assistance program \(YEHA\)](#), administered by Oregon Housing and Community Services, provides housing-focused services to enhance family stability and school success. These services include, but are not limited to, rent and utilities, hotel stays, and security deposits. Currently, only unaccompanied youth who are school-aged and families with school-aged children are eligible for the YEHA program based on housing status.