

A-Engrossed House Bill 2061

Ordered by the House April 14
Including House Amendments dated April 14

Sponsored by Representative ELMER; Representatives EVANS, SCHARF (at the request of Nicole Palmateer Hazelbaker - Bravio Communications for Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging & Disabilities) (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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act creates a task force about how to recruit and retain certain long term care workers. (Flesch Readability Score: 80.0).

Establishes a task force on the recruitment and retention of case managers and adult protective services workers.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the long term care workforce; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on the Recruitment and Retention of Case Managers and Adult Protective Services Workers is established.

(2) The task force consists of nine members appointed by the Governor as follows:

(a) Two members representing area agencies, as defined in ORS 410.040;

(b) One member representing the Department of Human Services;

(c) One member representing the Oregon Health Authority;

(d) One member representing a labor organization that represents case managers and adult protective services workers;

(e) One member who is employed as a case manager or adult protective services worker;

(f) One member who supervises case managers or adult protective services workers;

(g) One member who is a provider of Medicaid-funded long term care services; and

(h) One member who is a consumer of Medicaid-funded long term care services.

(3) The task force shall:

(a) Identify barriers to the recruitment and retention of case managers and adult protective services workers who serve consumers of Medicaid-funded long term care services;

(b) Identify recruitment and retention best practices from other states; and

(c) Provide solutions to improve current recruitment and retention rates.

(4) In carrying out the duties under subsection (3) of this section, the task force shall examine the following:

(a) Applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations;

(b) Potential pathways to enter the profession;

(c) Potential retention programs;

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.

- (d) Strategies for reducing unnecessary administrative burdens;
- (e) Reimbursement rates and wages;
- (f) Strategies for improving supervision and training;
- (g) Caseload guidelines and ratios based on national and local staffing studies;
- (h) The impact of the Oregon Eligibility (ONE) system on recruitment and retention;
- (i) Strategies for increasing the diversity of the workforce and the impact of having a diverse workforce on recruitment and retention;
- (j) Burnout rates;
- (k) The numbers and types of workers needed to meet the demand for services and comply with state and federal law; and
- (L) Alternative options for providing services.

(5) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members of the task force.

(7) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the Governor shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

(9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the members of the task force.

(10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

(11) No later than December 15, 2026, the task force shall submit a report in the manner provided in ORS 192.245 to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to health and shall make recommendations about:

- (a) Consumer access to care;
- (b) Consumer safety;
- (c) Federal regulatory requirements;
- (d) Administrative burdens on staff, managers, supervisors and agencies; and
- (e) Needed resources.

(12) The Department of Human Services shall provide staff support to the task force. The department may contract with a third party to provide staff support services under this subsection.

(13) Members of the task force are entitled to compensation and expenses in the same manner and amount as provided in ORS 292.495.

(14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on December 31, 2026.

SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Department of Human Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____, which may be expended for the purposes of section 1 of this 2025 Act.

SECTION 4. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect

1 **July 1, 2025.**

2
