

A-Engrossed House Bill 2139

Ordered by the House February 24
Including House Amendments dated February 24

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of Governor Tina Kotek for Office of the Governor)

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: This Act makes OHCS provide grants to Indian tribes for housing and homelessness. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.4).

[Digest: The Act tells OHCS to study housing. (Flesch Readability Score: 90.9).]

Requires the Housing and Community Services Department to *[study housing. Directs the department to submit findings to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to housing not later than September 15, 2026.]* **provide grants to eligible, federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon to address housing and homelessness prevention within the tribal community.**

Establishes the Tribal Housing Grant Fund for such purposes.

Appropriates moneys to the fund.

Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to housing; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Sections 2 and 3 of this 2025 Act are added to and made a part of ORS**
5 **chapter 458.**

6 **SECTION 2. (1) The Housing and Community Services Department shall make grants to**
7 **federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon for the purpose of:**

8 (a) **Providing affordable housing, rental assistance, down payment and homeownership**
9 **assistance, emergency housing assistance or shelter to tribal communities.**

10 (b) **Taking other actions to address homelessness, housing stabilization, homeownership**
11 **development and affordable housing in tribal communities.**

12 (2) **To be eligible for a grant under this section, a tribe must submit to the department**
13 **a copy of a housing plan that is in compliance with program guidance developed by the de-**
14 **partment.**

15 (3) **The department shall award grants on a regular basis from the Tribal Housing Grant**
16 **Fund established under section 3 of this 2025 Act.**

17 (4) **The department shall apportion grants to each eligible Indian tribe in amounts based**
18 **on a formula developed by the department.**

19 (5) **Recipients of grants under this section shall report to the department on the use of**
20 **funds in a form, format and schedule as prescribed by the department. The department may**
21 **consolidate reporting requirements while ensuring that the grants are used for intended**
22 **purposes.**

23 (6) **Grants made under this section are intended to benefit the tribes and the tribal**

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 communities. Contract preference laws, including laws benefitting tribal employment that
2 are adopted by the tribe that receives the benefit, may be applied with respect to the ad-
3 ministration of the grants.

4 (7) The eligibility for or award of a grant to a tribe under this section is not intended to
5 affect eligibility for any other funds or programs, including those under ORS 456.515 to
6 456.725 or this chapter.

7 **SECTION 3.** (1) The Tribal Housing Grant Fund is established in the State Treasury,
8 separate and distinct from the General Fund.

9 (2) The Tribal Housing Grant Fund consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited
10 or transferred to the fund by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. Interest earned by the
11 fund is credited to the fund.

12 (3) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Housing and Community
13 Services Department to award and administer grants under section 2 of this 2025 Act.

14 **SECTION 4.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
15 ated to the Housing and Community Services Department, for the biennium beginning July
16 1, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$12,767,376, for deposit into the Tribal
17 Housing Grant Fund established under section 3 of this 2025 Act.

18 **SECTION 5.** This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
19 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect
20 July 1, 2025.