

House Bill 2687

Sponsored by Representative RUIZ (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 **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act changes the requirements to qualify for a certain grant program. The Act takes effect 91 days after sine die. (Flesch Readability Score: 67.2).

Removes a provision that excluded certain temporary agricultural workers from grant eligibility.
Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to a grant program for improving the health and safety of agricultural workforce housing;
3 amending section 67, chapter 13, Oregon Laws 2023; and prescribing an effective date.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 67, chapter 13, Oregon Laws 2023, is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 67.** (1) The State Department of Agriculture shall provide grants to improve the health and
7 safety conditions of existing agriculture workforce housing, as defined in ORS 315.163, for agricul-
8 tural workers and their families.

9 (2)(a) The department shall design an application and establish criteria by which grants awarded
10 under this section are allocated and prioritized.

11 (b) Before a date on which rules that relate to housing for agricultural labor are first adopted
12 or amended by the Occupational Safety and Health Division of the Department of Consumer and
13 Business Services and that is after [*the effective date of this 2023 Act*] **March 29, 2023**, the State
14 Department of Agriculture shall prioritize awarding grants for housing that will comply with
15 changes to rules that are under consideration of the agricultural labor housing rulemaking advisory
16 committee of the division.

17 (c) Within 30 days of the adoption of rules described under paragraph (b) of this subsection, the
18 State Department of Agriculture shall update the grant application and criteria to allow the use of
19 grant money to comply with the new or updated rules of the division.

20 (3) To be eligible for a grant under this section, the housing:

21 (a) Must comply with all occupational safety or health laws, rules, regulations and standards;

22 (b) Must be operated by a person who holds a valid indorsement as a farmworker camp operator
23 under ORS 658.730, if an indorsement is required;

24 (c) Must be registered as a farmworker camp with the Department of Consumer and Business
25 Services under ORS 658.750, if the housing is farm employment-related housing, on or before 90 days
26 following the latter of:

27 (A) The first day of the first tax year after the grant was received; or

28 (B) The date the housing is first occupied; **and**

29 [*(d) May not be housing that is required to be provided as part of a labor contract made under a*
30 *temporary employment visa program; and*]

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 [(e)] (d) Must comply with any adopted rules, as described in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

2 (4) The Occupational Safety and Health Division of the Department of Consumer and Business
3 Services shall assist the State Department of Agriculture in establishing the application and criteria
4 under subsection (2)(b) and (c) of this section and shall assist the department or a contractor under
5 subsection (5) of this section in determining eligibility for a grant under subsection (3) of this sec-
6 tion.

7 (5) The State Department of Agriculture may enter into a contract with a third party to award
8 or administer grants under this section.

9 **SECTION 2. This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2025**
10 **regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

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