A-Engrossed House Bill 3926

Ordered by the House April 11 Including House Amendments dated April 11

Sponsored by Representative EDWARDS

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 tells OHA to create a way for families to exchange messages with their missing family members. The Act does not force contact among family members. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.5).

[Digest: The Act directs DSP to create a way for families to exchange messages with their missing family members. The Act would not force contact among family members. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.5)]

[Directs the Department of State Police to create the SIGNAL program (State Initiated Guidance for Notifying and Assisting the Lost).] Directs the Oregon Health Authority to create the Call Your Mom Program. Provides a way for a parent or former guardian of a missing [person] family member between 18 years of age and 30 years of age to exchange messages with the missing family member. Requires behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations to determine at intake whether an individual is a missing family member whose parent or former guardian has submitted a message to the program and provide information necessary to access and respond to the message. Provides that participation in the program is voluntary for a missing family member and a parent or former guardian. Requires the [department] authority to destroy all information and materials received under the program within specified time limits.

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to missing persons.

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- 3 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
- SECTION 1. As used in sections 1 to 3 of this 2025 Act:
- (1) "Behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organization" means a:
 - (a) Behavioral health entity assisting individuals through a deflection program;
- (b) Community mental health program established under ORS 430.620;
 - (c) Publicly or privately operated nonprofit organization approved by the Oregon Health
- Authority that provides mental health, addiction or substance use disorder services;
 - (d) Residential treatment facility as defined in ORS 443.400; or
 - (e) Residential treatment home as defined in ORS 443.400.
 - (2) "Deflection program" has the meaning given that term in section 37, chapter 70, Oregon Laws 2024.
 - (3) "Missing family member" means a person between 18 years of age and 30 years of age whose whereabouts are unknown to the parent or former guardian of the person, regardless of whether the person has been reported as missing and entered into state and federal missing persons records by a law enforcement agency under ORS 146.181.
 - <u>SECTION 2.</u> (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall establish and maintain the Call Your Mom Program to allow for behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations to exchange messages between a missing family member and the parent or former guardian of

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the missing family member. In fulfilling its duties under this section, the authority shall:

- (a) Develop and maintain a system that allows behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations to exchange messages between a missing family member and the parent or former guardian of the missing family member; and
- (b) Develop program guidance for behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations to implement the requirements of the program established by the authority under this section.
- (2) The system developed and maintained by the authority under subsection (1)(a) of this section must:
- (a) Allow a parent or former guardian of a missing family member to submit a message addressed to the missing family member of the parent or former guardian;
- (b) Create a personal identification number that is accessible by behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations for each message submitted to the system that may be provided to and used by a missing family member to securely access the message;
- (c) Securely disseminate to the missing family member messages submitted to the system and allow the missing family member who accesses a message through the system to submit a response to each message; and
- (d) If a missing family member submits a response through the system, securely disseminate the response to the parent or former guardian of the missing family member.
- (3) The program guidance developed by the authority under subsection (1)(b) of this section must include guidance for behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations to fulfill the requirements of section 3 of this 2025 Act.
- (4) The authority shall retain a message submitted by a parent or former guardian of a missing family member to the system developed by the authority under this section for at least 180 days after a missing family member receives the information necessary for the missing family member to access and respond to the message. Not later than one year after a missing family member receives the information necessary to access and respond to the message, or, if the missing family member submits a response to the system, not later than one year after the response is securely disseminated to the parent or former guardian of the missing family member, the authority shall destroy the message, any response and any other corresponding information and materials collected and stored by the authority under this section.
- (5) The authority shall adopt rules for implementing the requirements of this section, including standards for maintaining and clearing computer data of missing family member information collected and stored under this section.
- SECTION 3. Upon intake or admission of an individual, a behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organization shall determine whether the individual is a missing family member whose parent or former guardian has submitted a message to the system developed by the Oregon Health Authority under section 2 (1)(a) of this 2025 Act and, if so, shall:
- (1) Provide information to the individual about the Call Your Mom Program established by the authority under section 2 of this 2025 Act;
- (2) Notify the individual of any message for the individual submitted to the system under section 2 of this 2025 Act and provide the information necessary for the individual to access and respond to the message; and
 - (3) Offer the individual a means to access and respond to any message for the individual

submitted to the system under section 2 of this 2025 Act. This subsection does not require a missing family member to access or respond to a message submitted to the system under section 2 of this 2025 Act. Participation of a missing family member in the program developed by the authority under section 2 of this 2025 Act is voluntary.

SECTION 4. (1) Sections 1 to 3 of this 2025 Act become operative on July 1, 2026.

(2) The Oregon Health Authority and behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations may take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the authority and behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the authority and behavioral health treatment or rehabilitation organizations by sections 1 to 3 of this 2025 Act.