## B-Engrossed Senate Bill 690

Ordered by the House June 23 Including Senate Amendments dated June 13 and House Amendments dated June 23

Sponsored by Senator REYNOLDS, Representatives GRAYBER, NERON, NELSON; Senators GELSER BLOUIN, MANNING JR, PATTERSON, Representative NGUYEN H (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: This Act delays evictions for babies' families who get help with rent through OHP. (Flesch Readability Score: 71.7).

Requires courts to delay residential eviction trials for nonpayment until at least 90 days fol-

Requires courts to delay residential eviction trials for nonpayment until at least 90 days following [approval of] defendants' motion and declaration regarding their health-related social needs housing supports. Requires the Judicial Department to make conforming updates to the nonpayment termination notice. Becomes operative on September 1, 2025. Sunsets on September 28, 2027.

Requires the Housing and Community Services Department to prioritize housing funding for children under 12 months of age and to annually report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to housing on the rate of children experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to perinatal public health; creating new provisions; amending ORS 105.136; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas Oregon ranks first in the nation for families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness and there are additional Oregon children who experience severe housing insecurity; and

Whereas the number of families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Oregon is 14 times higher than the national average and nearly three times higher than the next highest state; and

Whereas current varied methodologies for calculating and defining homelessness can lead to undercounting and can present barriers to families accessing resources; and

Whereas the population at highest risk of eviction in the United States is families with babies and toddlers who experience an eviction rate twice as high as adults without children; and

Whereas homelessness and housing insecurity for families with babies under one year old creates toxic stress for caregivers and interferes with early relational health affecting the brain growth of babies; and

Whereas adversity in the perinatal period leads to long-lasting effects on healthy social, emotional and cognitive development, increasing the likelihood of poor academic performance, worse health across the life course and homelessness into adulthood; and

Whereas providing stable housing for families with babies is necessary to maximize babies' brain development and their future success in learning, emotional regulation and overall health; and

Whereas further data reporting on the status of Oregon's rate of unsheltered homelessness

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among children is needed to allow the Legislative Assembly to determine the effectiveness of perinatal housing programs and to determine further actions; and

Whereas critical investments in keeping parents of infants stably housed is integral to preventing early childhood adverse experiences and to addressing social and structural determinants of health for Oregon's most vulnerable population; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 105.100 to 105.168.

<u>SECTION 2.</u> (1) As used in this section, "health-related social needs housing supports" means housing supports approved for the demonstration project under 42 U.S.C. 1315 by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

- (2) In an action for possession based on nonpayment, as defined in ORS 90.395, a defendant may move the court to reschedule the trial supported by a motion and declaration under penalty of perjury that the person:
  - (a) Is the parent of a child under 12 months of age who is living in the dwelling unit;
  - (b) Is a recipient of medical assistance, as defined in ORS 414.025;
- (c) Was approved, on a date of approval specified in the declaration, by the Oregon Health Authority or a coordinated care organization, as defined in ORS 414.025, to receive health-related social needs housing supports; and
  - (d) Delivered documentation to the plaintiff as provided in subsection (3) of this section.
- (3) On or before filing a motion and declaration under subsection (2) of this section, the defendant shall deliver to the plaintiff a copy of an award letter or any other documentation showing approval for health-related social needs housing supports. The defendant may redact the names of any medical providers, Oregon Health Plan member identification numbers or other protected personal information, not including the defendant's name or contact information, that appears in the documentation.
- (4) Notwithstanding ORS 105.137 (6), a court shall grant the motion and shall reschedule the trial to a date no sooner than 90 days and no later than 104 days from the date of the motion if:
- (a) The motion and declaration under subsection (2) of this section are filed at least three judicial days prior to the date set for trial, unless good cause is shown; and
  - (b) The court finds that the requirements of subsection (2) of this section are met.

SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is repealed on September 28, 2027.

SECTION 4. ORS 105.136 is amended to read:

105.136. (1) The Judicial Department, in consultation with the Housing and Community Services Department, shall supply and may regularly update the notice required under ORS 90.395 (2) and 105.135 (2)(d). The notice must be in substantially the following form:

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40 THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE OF WHERE TO GET HELP IF YOU ARE FACING PO-

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE OF WHERE TO GET HELP IF YOU ARE FACING POTENTIAL EVICTION FOR NONPAYMENT.

For information in Spanish, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese or Chinese, go to the Judicial Department website at \_\_\_\_\_\_.

1	You must comply with deadlines identified in a notice of nonpayment, or you risk losing your
2	housing.
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4	Rental assistance and support services may be available. Dial 2-1-1 or go to www.211info.org or
5	contact a local service provider at
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7	If you have a child under 1 year old living with you and you have been approved for rent
8	assistance through Medicaid, you may be able to delay the eviction. See for
9	more information.
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11 12	Low-income tenants may be able to receive free or low-cost legal advice by contacting a legal aid organization. Go to to find an office near you.
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14 15	The Oregon State Bar provides information about legal assistance programs at
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18	(2) The Judicial Department shall translate the completed form under subsection (1) of this
19	section into the Spanish, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese and Chinese languages and shall display links
20	to the English and translated forms prominently on the department's website.
21	(3) Each form on the Judicial Department website under subsection (2) of this section must in-
22	clude a statement in English, Spanish, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese and Chinese indicating that the
23	form and translations can be found on the Judicial Department website and providing the web ad-
24	dress where the forms may be found.
25	SECTION 5. (1) Section 2 of this 2025 Act and the amendments to ORS 105.136 by section
26	4 of this 2025 Act become operative on September 1, 2025.
27	(2) The Judicial Department may take any action before the operative date specified in
28	subsection (1) of this section that is necessary for the Judicial Department to exercise, on
29	and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties,
30	functions and powers conferred on the Judicial Department by section 2 of this 2025 Act and
31	the amendments to ORS 105.136 by section 4 of this 2025 Act.
32	SECTION 6. ORS 105.136, as amended by section 4 of this 2025 Act, is amended to read:
33	105.136. (1) The Judicial Department, in consultation with the Housing and Community Services
34	Department, shall supply and may regularly update the notice required under ORS 90.395 (2) and
35 36	105.135 (2)(d). The notice must be in substantially the following form:
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38	THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE OF WHERE TO GET HELP IF YOU ARE FACING PO-
39 40	TENTIAL EVICTION FOR NONPAYMENT.
41	For information in Spanish, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese or Chinese, go to the Judicial De-
42	partment website at
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44	You must comply with deadlines identified in a notice of nonpayment, or you risk losing your
45	housing.

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4	[If you have a child under 1 year old living with you and you have been approved for rent as-
5	sistance through Medicaid, you may be able to delay the eviction. See for more in-
6	formation.]
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8	Low-income tenants may be able to receive free or low-cost legal advice by contacting a legal
9	aid organization. Go to to find an office near you.
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15	(2) The Judicial Department shall translate the completed form under subsection (1) of this
16	section into the Spanish, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese and Chinese languages and shall display links
17	to the English and translated forms prominently on the department's website.
18	(3) Each form on the Judicial Department website under subsection (2) of this section must in-
19	clude a statement in English, Spanish, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese and Chinese indicating that the
20	form and translations can be found on the Judicial Department website and providing the web ad-
21	dress where the forms may be found.
22	SECTION 7. The amendments to ORS 105.136 by section 6 of this 2025 Act become oper-
23	ative on September 28, 2027.
24	SECTION 8. Section 9 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 456.548 to
25	456.725.
26	SECTION 9. (1) The Housing and Community Services Department shall prioritize,
27	whenever possible in the department's discretion, families with children under 12 months of
28	age, in adopting rules or policies to implement or administer programs that serve to promote
29	housing stabilization for people experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of becoming
30	homeless.
31	(2) On or before September 15 of each year, the department shall submit a report in the
32	manner provided by ORS 192.245 to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly re-
33	lated to housing on the rate of unsheltered homelessness among children in this state.
34	SECTION 10. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
35	peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect
36	on its passage.

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