

House Bill 2365

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Judiciary for Oregon Law Commission)

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**.

Creates Task Force on Adoption Proceedings. Requires report to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2016.

Sunset on date of convening of 2017 regular session of Legislative Assembly.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to adoptions; and declaring an emergency.

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

3 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Adoption Proceedings is established, consisting of**
4 **seven members appointed as follows:**

5 (a) **The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall appoint two members representing the**
6 **Judicial Department with expertise in adoption proceedings in the courts, at least one of**
7 **whom shall be a circuit court judge.**

8 (b) **The Attorney General shall appoint two members as follows:**

9 (A) **One member representing the Department of Justice with expertise in adoption pro-**
10 **ceedings; and**

11 (B) **One member representing the Oregon District Attorneys Association with expertise**
12 **in adoption proceedings.**

13 (c) **The Board of Governors of the Oregon State Bar shall appoint two members who are**
14 **members of the Oregon State Bar with expertise representing parents and children in**
15 **adoption proceedings.**

16 (d) **The Director of Human Services shall appoint one member representing the Depart-**
17 **ment of Human Services with expertise in the area of child welfare and adoptions.**

18 (2) **The task force shall examine procedural and substantive issues in adoption pro-**
19 **ceedings in Oregon's courts for the purpose of identifying changes to existing law that could**
20 **be made to improve processes of adoption in this state including but not limited to agency**
21 **practices and consent requirements.**

22 (3) **A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction**
23 **of business.**

24 (4) **Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**
25 **of the task force.**

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

27 (6) **If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
28 **ment to become immediately effective.**

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

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

3 (9) The task force shall make a report, and may include recommendations for legislation,
4 to interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to child welfare and adoption
5 proceedings no later than September 15, 2016.

6 (10) The Legislative Administrator shall provide staff support to the task force.

7 (11) Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed
8 for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of
9 their official duties in the manner and amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for ex-
10 penses incurred in performing functions of the task force shall be paid out of funds appro-
11 priated to the Legislative Administrator for purposes of the task force.

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

16 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2015 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the 2017
17 regular session of the Legislative Assembly as specified in ORS 171.010.

18 SECTION 3. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
19 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect
20 on its passage.

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