

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2202

Ordered by the House May 16
Including House Amendments dated May 16

Ordered printed by the Speaker pursuant to House Rule 12.00A (5). Pre-session filed (at the request of Joint Interim Committee on Judiciary for Oregon Homeless and Runaway Youth Coalition)

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.

[Directs State Commission on Children and Families to work with certain state agencies and advisory committees to develop state policy regarding runaway and homeless youth and their families. Requires that policy be developed by January 1, 2007, and that report to legislature on implementation of policy be made prior to February 1, 2009.]

Directs State Commission on Children and Families to lead joint process involving commission and certain state agencies and advisory committees to develop comprehensive and coordinated approach for services and support for runaway and homeless youth and their families.

Requires joint process to be completed by January 1, 2007, and directs commission to report to Governor and legislature on recommendations developed through process.

Directs local commissions on children and families to consider needs, resources and support for runaway and homeless youth and their families as part of development of local coordinated comprehensive plans and to provide information to state commission regarding barriers to local implementation of care and services to youth and families that result from existing state level policies.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to State Commission on Children and Families; and declaring an emergency.

3 Whereas Oregon lacks a comprehensive policy for systematically addressing the issues and
4 needs of runaway and homeless youth and their families; and

5 Whereas communities have few options to hold families of runaway and homeless youth ac-
6 countable; and

7 Whereas significant gaps exist in the availability and coordination of services for runaway and
8 homeless youth; now, therefore,

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

10 **SECTION 1. Sections 2, 3 and 5 of this 2005 Act are added to and made a part of ORS**
11 **417.705 to 417.797.**

12 **SECTION 2. (1) The State Commission on Children and Families is responsible for coor-**
13 **ordinating statewide planning for delivery of services to runaway and homeless youth and their**
14 **families.**

15 **(2) The State Commission on Children and Families shall lead a process that will allow**
16 **the state commission, the Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee, the Employment**
17 **Department, the Department of Human Services, the Housing and Community Services De-**
18 **partment, the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, the Depart-**
19 **ment of Education and the Oregon Youth Authority to develop a comprehensive 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 coordinated approach for services and support for runaway and homeless youth and their
2 families. The approach shall include an assessment of service needs, the integration of ex-
3 isting services and the identification and tracking of a statewide high-level outcome related
4 to runaway and homeless youth and their families.

5 (3) Through the process, the agencies and other persons and entities involved in the
6 process shall:

7 (a) Recommend funding mechanisms, financial resources and policy changes that will
8 support a continuum of services and that will ensure integration of services among state
9 agencies that provide services to runaway and homeless youth and their families;

10 (b) Identify means of service delivery that are culturally competent, gender specific and
11 evidence based and that reflect differences in approaches for urban and rural runaway and
12 homeless youth and their families;

13 (c) Develop urban and rural demonstration sites to test effective service delivery models
14 for the urban and rural populations;

15 (d) Recommend policies and services that specifically address the needs and responsibil-
16 ities of parents of runaway and homeless youth;

17 (e) Review existing state laws regarding parental accountability to determine recom-
18 mended enforcement levels and examine new strategies to encourage parents to be ac-
19 countable for positive development of their children; and

20 (f) Recommend policies that integrate a system of services for runaway and homeless
21 youth into the state's continuum of care for children who are 0 through 18 years of age.

22 (4) In addition to the state agencies listed in subsection (2) of this section, the state
23 commission shall include representatives of youth, nonprofit organizations and statewide
24 coalitions related to runaway and homeless youth services and supports in the joint process
25 described in subsection (2) of this section.

26 **SECTION 3.** The State Commission on Children and Families shall coordinate the col-
27 lection of data, provision of technical assistance to communities for assessing the needs of
28 runaway and homeless youth, and identification and promotion of the best practices for
29 service delivery, and shall recommend long term goals to identify and address the underlying
30 causes of homelessness of youth.

31 **SECTION 4.** The joint process described in section 2 of this 2005 Act shall be completed
32 no later than January 1, 2007. Prior to January 1, 2007, the State Commission on Children
33 and Families shall report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the
34 President of the Senate and the interim legislative committees on children and families on
35 the recommendations developed through the joint process under section 2 of this 2005 Act.

36 **SECTION 5.** Local commissions on children and families shall consider the needs, re-
37 sources and support for runaway and homeless youth and their families as part of the de-
38 velopment of local coordinated comprehensive plans. As part of this process, local
39 commissions shall provide information to the State Commission on Children and Families on
40 the barriers to local implementation of care and services to runaway and homeless youth and
41 their families that result from existing state level policies.

42 **SECTION 6.** This 2005 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
43 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2005 Act takes effect
44 on its passage.