

A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 996

Ordered by the Senate April 6
Including Senate Amendments dated April 6

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON RULES

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.

[Changes] **Increases** yearly cap for total amount attributable to all outstanding tax credits for all eligible loans.

Applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2005.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to tax credits for low-income housing financing; creating new provisions; amending ORS
3 317.097; and prescribing an effective date.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 317.097 is amended to read:

6 317.097. (1) A credit against taxes otherwise due under this chapter for the taxable year shall
7 be allowed to a lending institution in an amount equal to the difference between:

8 (a) The amount of finance charge charged by the lending institution during the taxable year at
9 an annual rate less than the market rate for a loan that is made before January 1, 2010, that com-
10 plies with the requirements of this section; and

11 (b) The amount of finance charge that would have been charged during the taxable year by the
12 lending institution for the loan for housing construction, development or rehabilitation measured at
13 the annual rate charged by the lending institution for nonsubsidized loans made under like terms
14 and conditions at the time the loan for housing construction, development or rehabilitation is made.

15 (2) The maximum difference between the amounts described in subsection (1)(a) and (b) of this
16 section [shall] **may** not exceed four percent of the average unpaid balance of the loan during the
17 tax year for which the credit is claimed.

18 (3) Any tax credit otherwise allowable under this section that is not used by the taxpayer in a
19 particular year may be carried forward and offset against the taxpayer's tax liability for the next
20 succeeding tax year. Any credit remaining unused in [such] **the** next succeeding tax year may be
21 carried forward and used in the second succeeding tax year, and likewise, any credit not used in
22 that second succeeding tax year may be carried forward and used in the third succeeding tax year,
23 and any credit not used in that third succeeding tax year may be carried forward and used in the
24 fourth succeeding tax year, and any credit not used in that fourth succeeding tax year may be car-
25 ried forward and used in the fifth succeeding tax year, but may not be carried forward for any tax
26 year thereafter.

27 (4) In order to be eligible for the tax credit allowed under subsection (1) of this section, the loan

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 shall be:

2 (a) Made to an individual or individuals who own the dwelling, participate in an owner-occupied
3 community rehabilitation program and are certified by the local government or its designated agent
4 as having an income level at the time the loan is made of less than 80 percent of the area median
5 income; or

6 (b)(A) Made to a qualified borrower;

7 (B) Used to finance construction, rehabilitation or development of housing; and

8 (C) Accompanied by a written certification by the Housing and Community Services Department
9 that the:

10 (i) Housing created by the loan is or will be occupied by households earning less than 80 percent
11 of the area median income; and

12 (ii) Full amount of savings from the reduced interest rate provided by the lending institution is
13 or will be passed on to the tenants in the form of reduced housing payments, regardless of other
14 subsidies provided to the housing project.

15 (5) A loan made to refinance a loan that meets the criteria stated in subsection (4) of this sec-
16 tion shall be treated the same as a loan that meets the criteria stated in subsection (4) of this sec-
17 tion.

18 (6) In order to be eligible for the tax credit allowed under subsection (1) of this section, the loan
19 also shall be accompanied by a written certification by the Housing and Community Services De-
20 partment that:

21 (a) Specifies the period, as determined by the Housing and Community Services Department,
22 during which the loan is eligible for the tax credit under subsection (1) of this section; and

23 (b) States that the loan is within the limitation imposed by subsection (7) of this section.

24 (7)(a) The Housing and Community Services Department may certify loans that are eligible un-
25 der subsection (4) of this section if the total credits attributable to all loans eligible for credits un-
26 der subsection (1) of this section and then outstanding do not exceed [~~\$6~~] **\$11** million for any year.
27 In making loan certifications, the Housing and Community Services Department shall attempt to
28 distribute the tax credits statewide, but shall concentrate the tax credits in those areas of the state
29 that are determined by the State Housing Council to have the greatest need for affordable housing.

30 (b) The certification under subsection (6) of this section shall state the period for which the
31 credit will be allowed, which shall not exceed 20 years.

32 (8) [*The credit allowed in this section shall not be affected by*] The applicant's receipt of a credit
33 under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code [*(low-income housing tax credit program)*] **does not**
34 **affect the credit allowed under this section.**

35 (9) A loan meeting the requirements of subsections (4) and (6) of this section may be sold to a
36 qualified assignee with or without the lending institution's retaining servicing of the loan so long
37 as a designated lending institution maintains records annually verified by a loan servicer that es-
38 tablish the amount of tax credit earned by the taxpayer throughout each year of eligibility.

39 (10) As used in this section:

40 (a) "Annual rate" means the yearly interest rate specified on the note, and not the annual per-
41 centage rate, if any, disclosed to the applicant to comply with the federal Truth in Lending Act.

42 (b) "Finance charge" means the total of all interests, loan fees and other charges related to the
43 cost of obtaining credit and includes any interest on any loan fees financed by the lending institu-
44 tion.

45 (c) "Lending institution" means any insured institution, as that term is defined in ORS 706.008,

1 or any mortgage banking company that maintains an office in this state. "Lending institution" also
2 includes any community development corporation that is organized under the Oregon Nonprofit
3 Corporation Law.

4 (d) "Qualified assignee" means any investor participating in the secondary market for real estate
5 loans.

6 (e) "Qualified borrower" means any borrower that is a sponsoring entity that has a controlling
7 interest in the real property that is financed by the loan described in subsection (4) of this section.
8 Such a controlling interest includes, but is not limited to, a controlling interest in the general
9 partner of a limited partnership that owns the real property.

10 (f) "Sponsoring entity" means a nonprofit corporation, state governmental entity, local unit of
11 government as defined in ORS 466.706, housing authority or any person as defined in ORS 174.100,
12 including, but not limited to, an employer making housing available to low-income employees and
13 other low-income persons, provided that the person has agreed to restrictive covenants imposed by
14 a nonprofit corporation, state governmental entity, local unit of government or housing authority.

15 (11) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a lending institution that is a community de-
16 velopment corporation organized under the Oregon Nonprofit Corporation Law may transfer any
17 part or all of any tax credit arising under subsection (1) of this section to one or more other lending
18 institutions that are stockholders or members of the community development corporation or that
19 otherwise participate through the community development corporation in the making of one or more
20 loans that generate the tax credit under subsection (1) of this section.

21 (12) The lending institution shall file an annual statement with the Housing and Community
22 Services Department, specifying that it has conformed with all requirements imposed by law to
23 qualify for this tax credit.

24 (13) The Housing and Community Services Department and the Department of Revenue may
25 adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this section.

26 **SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 317.097 by section 1 of this 2005 Act apply to tax**
27 **years beginning on or after January 1, 2005.**

28 **SECTION 3. This 2005 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the reg-**
29 **ular session of the Seventy-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

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