

Oregon Employment Department Advisory Council – Legislative Session Update Meeting							
Date/time:		February 18, 2022   1-2 p.m.					
Location:		Zoom platform					
Attendees:		A = Absent P = Present					
A	Paloma Sparks	P	Tom Cusack	P	Marc Chrismer	P	David Gerstenfeld
P	Haley Alves	P	Kenechi Onyeagusi	P	Royce Williams	P	Rebecca Nance
A	Kurtis Baker	P	Catie Theisen	P	Anne Friend	P	Jeannine Beatrice
P	Robert Camarillo	A	Laurie Westenberg	P	David Genz		

MINUTES - APPROVED

	Topic	Notes	Presenter
1.	Welcome & self-introductions of Council members & OED staff	Catie called OED Advisory Council (Council) Legislative Session update meeting to order at 1:04 PM. Council members and OED staff introduced themselves.	Catie Thiesen
2.	Legislative Update - Short Session	<p>Rebecca explained how state agencies are not to take a position on legislation during legislative sessions, unless there is alignment with the Governor’s Office. Rebecca reviewed the bills of note that are being tracked by the department.</p> <p>Senate Bill (SB) 1515 defines the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance (PFMLI) benefit year. This bill is needed to help stand up the PFMLI program, and is consistent with the benefit year in the unemployment insurance (UI) program.</p> <p>SB 1545A relates to the Governor’s Office Future Ready Oregon workforce initiative. Priority 10,000 (House Bill (HB) 4104) was rolled into this bill. This has passed out of committee and has been referred to the full Ways and Means committee.</p> <p>Kenechi asked about the specific provisions from HB 4104 were rolled in into SB 1545? David Gerstenfeld answered, explaining the concepts were moved over in wholesale, and provides additional federal reimbursement opportunities.</p> <p>Tom asked if there are any pieces of legislation that have a trust fund impact, and to indicate if this is the case for any of the bills being discussed.</p> <p>Rebecca indicated that at this point in time there is no Unemployment Insurance (UI) trust fund impact on any of the bills discussed today, and that we always look very closely for trust fund impact.</p> <p>HB 4002A, tax credit for Agriculture employers, has gone through several changes, and would have been a huge impact to OED. OED has been removed, amendments are being drafted, and the work has landed with the Department of Revenue to take applications and provides tax credits to the</p>	Rebecca Nance, Senior Legislative Advisor

		<p>employers. Rebecca explained how the credit would work if the bill passes as currently written.</p> <p>BOLI may be promulgating overtime administrative rules for all agriculture workers.</p> <p>HB 4157 will provide for a lump sum payment to people that have worked through the pandemic and were not able to perform their jobs remotely. This will be administered by the Department of Revenue, and will be based on those who qualified for and received the earned income tax credit.</p> <p>SB 1560A, updates statutes removing “alien” and replacing it with “noncitizen”. The amendment includes allowing agencies to make this change in rule without going through the regular administrative rule promulgation process, and giving public notice. Anne confirmed that amendment A allows for changes OED will need to make to the OED administrative rules will be completed through the statutory minor correction process with the Secretary of State’s Office.</p> <p>SB 1514A, precludes some lump sum payments tax-exempt (e.g. one-time essential worker payments.)</p> <p>Rebecca reviewed HB 4104 and 4001 and explained that the elements of HB 4101 have been rolled into SB 1545 and HB 4001 was no longer workable, and the essential worker pay is HB 4157.</p> <p>Kenechi asked how we ensure Future Ready stays funded and those funds are focused where intended?</p> <p>Discussion followed.</p> <p>Rebecca will provide an update next week on the list of bills presented today.</p> <p>The department is currently working on the 2023 legislative concepts; and those concepts will be brought back to the Council for discussion and feedback.</p>	
3.	Adjourn	The meeting adjourned at 1:44 PM.	

**ACTION ITEMS**

Action	Assigned	Date Due	Completed
Rebecca Nance to provide an update on High Priority Bills for this short session.	Rebecca	2/25/22	2/24/22, via email