

Enrolled House Bill 3124

Sponsored by Representative LIVELY; Representatives POWER, WILDE, Senator GORSEK

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to homelessness; amending ORS 203.079 and section 1, chapter 21, Oregon Laws 2018; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 203.079 is amended to read:

203.079. (1) A policy developed pursuant to ORS 203.077 shall *[include, but is not limited to,]* **conform, but is not limited, to** the following^[:] provisions.

(2) **As used in this section, “personal property” means any item that can reasonably be identified as belonging to an individual and that has apparent value or utility.**

[(a)] (3) ***[Prior to]* Except as provided in subsection (9) of this section, at least 72 hours before** removing homeless individuals from an established camping site, law enforcement officials shall post a **written** notice, *[written]* in English and Spanish, *[24 hours in advance]* **at all entrances to the camping site to the extent that the entrances can reasonably be identified.**

[(b)] (4)(a) ***[At the time that a 24-hour]* When a 72-hour** notice is posted, law enforcement officials shall inform the local agency that delivers social services to homeless individuals **as to** where the notice has been posted.

[(c)] (b) The local agency may arrange for outreach workers to visit the camping site *[where a notice has been posted]* **that is subject to the notice** to assess the need for social service assistance in arranging shelter and other assistance.

[(d)] (5)(a) All *[unclaimed]* personal property **at the camping site that remains unclaimed after removal** shall be given to *[law enforcement officials whether 24-hour]* **a law enforcement official, a local agency that delivers social services to homeless individuals, an outreach worker, a local agency official or a person authorized to issue a citation described in subsection (10) of this section, whether** notice is required **under subsection (3) of this section** or not.

(b) **The unclaimed personal property must be stored:**

(A) **For property removed from camping sites in counties other than Multnomah County, in a facility located in the same community as the camping site from which it was removed.**

(B) **For property removed from camping sites in Multnomah County, in a facility located within six blocks of a public transit station.**

(c) **Items that have no apparent value or utility or are in an insanitary condition may be immediately discarded upon removal of the homeless individuals from the camping site.**

(d) **Weapons, controlled substances other than prescription medication and items that appear to be either stolen or evidence of a crime shall be given to or retained by law enforcement officials.**

(6) The written notice required under subsection (3) of this section must state, at a minimum:

(a) Where unclaimed personal property will be stored;

(b) A phone number that individuals may call to find out where the property will be stored; or

(c) If a permanent storage location has not yet been determined, the address and phone number of an agency that will have the information when available.

(7)(a) The unclaimed personal property shall be stored in an orderly fashion, keeping items that belong to an individual together to the extent that ownership can reasonably be determined.

(b) The property shall be stored for a minimum of 30 days during which it [will] shall be reasonably available to any individual claiming ownership. Any personal property that remains unclaimed [for] after 30 days may be disposed of or donated to a corporation described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as amended and in effect on December 31, 2020. [For purposes of this paragraph, "personal property" means any item that is reasonably recognizable as belonging to a person and that has apparent utility. Items that have no apparent utility or are in an insanitary condition may be immediately discarded upon removal of the homeless individuals from the camping site. Weapons, drug paraphernalia and items that appear to be either stolen or evidence of a crime shall be given to law enforcement officials.]

[(e)] (8) Following the removal of homeless individuals from a camping site on public property, the law enforcement officials, local agency officials and outreach workers may meet to assess the notice and removal policy, to discuss whether the removals are occurring in a humane and just manner and to determine if any changes are needed in the policy.

[(2)] (9)(a) The [24-hour] 72-hour notice [required] requirement under subsection [(1)] (3) of this section [shall] does not apply:

[(a)] (A) When there are grounds for law enforcement officials to believe that illegal activities other than camping are occurring at an established camping site.

[(b)] (B) In the event of an exceptional emergency [such as] at an established camping site, including, but not limited to, possible site contamination by hazardous materials [or when there is], a public health emergency or other immediate danger to human life or safety.

(b) If a funeral service is scheduled with less than 72 hours' notice at a cemetery at which there is a camping site, or a camping site is established at the cemetery less than 72 hours before the scheduled service, the written notice required under subsection (3) of this section may be posted at least 24 hours before removing homeless individuals from the camping site.

[(3)] (10) A person authorized to issue a citation for unlawful camping under state law, administrative rule or city or county ordinance may not issue the citation if the citation would be issued within 200 feet of [the] a notice [described in] required under subsection (3) of this section and within two hours before or after the notice was posted.

(11) Any law or policy of a city or county that is more specific or offers greater protections to homeless individuals subject to removal from an established camping site preempts contrary provisions of this section.

SECTION 1a. If Senate Bill 410 becomes law, section 1 of this 2021 Act (amending ORS 203.079) is repealed and ORS 203.079, as amended by section 1, chapter __, Oregon Laws 2021 (Enrolled Senate Bill 410), is amended to read:

203.079. (1) A policy developed pursuant to ORS 203.077 shall [include, but is not limited to,] conform, but is not limited, to the following[:] provisions.

(2) As used in this section, "personal property" means any item that can reasonably be identified as belonging to an individual and that has apparent value or utility.

[(a)] (3) [Prior to] Except as provided in subsection (9) of this section, at least 72 hours before removing homeless individuals from an established camping site, law enforcement officials

shall post a **written** notice, *[written]* in English and Spanish, *[24 hours in advance]* **at all entrances to the camping site to the extent that the entrances can reasonably be identified.**

[(b)] **(4)(a)** *[At the time that a 24-hour]* **When a 72-hour** notice is posted, law enforcement officials shall inform the local agency that delivers social services to homeless individuals **as to** where the notice has been posted.

[(c)] **(b)** The local agency may arrange for outreach workers to visit the camping site *[where a notice has been posted]* **that is subject to the notice** to assess the need for social service assistance in arranging shelter and other assistance.

[(d) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (e) of this subsection:]

[(A)] **(5)(a)** All *[unclaimed]* personal property **at the camping site that remains unclaimed after removal** shall be given to *[law enforcement officials whether 24-hour]* **a law enforcement official, a local agency that delivers social services to homeless individuals, an outreach worker, a local agency official or a person authorized to issue a citation described in subsection (10) of this section, whether** notice is required **under subsection (3) of this section** or not.

(b) The unclaimed personal property must be stored:

(A) For property removed from camping sites in counties other than Multnomah County, in a facility located in the same community as the camping site from which it was removed.

(B) For property removed from camping sites in Multnomah County, in a facility located within six blocks of a public transit station.

(c) Items that have no apparent value or utility or are in an insanitary condition may be immediately discarded upon removal of the homeless individuals from the camping site.

(d) Weapons, controlled substances other than prescription medication and items that appear to be either stolen or evidence of a crime shall be given to or retained by law enforcement officials.

(6) The written notice required under subsection (3) of this section must state, at a minimum:

(a) Where unclaimed personal property will be stored;

(b) A phone number that individuals may call to find out where the property will be stored; or

(c) If a permanent storage location has not yet been determined, the address and phone number of an agency that will have the information when available.

(7)(a) The unclaimed personal property shall be stored in an orderly fashion, keeping items that belong to an individual together to the extent that ownership can reasonably be determined.

(b) The property shall be stored for a minimum of 30 days during which it *[will]* shall be reasonably available to any individual claiming ownership. Any personal property that remains unclaimed *[for]* after 30 days may be disposed of **or donated to a corporation described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as amended and in effect on December 31, 2020.**

[(B) For purposes of this paragraph, "personal property" means any item that is reasonably recognizable as belonging to a person and that has apparent utility. Items that have no apparent utility or are in an insanitary condition may be immediately discarded upon removal of the homeless individuals from the camping site.]

[(C) Weapons, drug paraphernalia and items that appear to be either stolen or evidence of a crime shall be given to or retained by law enforcement officials.]

[(e) For unclaimed personal property located in Multnomah County:]

[(A) All unclaimed personal property shall be given to a law enforcement official, a local agency that delivers social services to homeless individuals, an outreach worker, a local agency official or a person authorized to issue a citation described in subsection (3) of this section, whether 24-hour notice is required or not.]

[(B) Facilities for storage of personal property under paragraph (d) of this subsection must be located within six blocks of a public transit station.]

[(f)] **(8)** Following the removal of homeless individuals from a camping site on public property, the law enforcement officials, local agency officials and outreach workers may meet to assess the notice and removal policy, to discuss whether the removals are occurring in a humane and just manner and to determine if any changes are needed in the policy.

[(2)] **(9)(a)** The [24-hour] **72-hour** notice [required] **requirement** under subsection [(1)] **(3)** of this section [shall] **does not** apply:

[(a)] **(A)** When there are grounds for law enforcement officials to believe that illegal activities other than camping are occurring **at an established camping site**.

[(b)] **(B)** In the event of an exceptional emergency [such as] **at an established camping site, including, but not limited to,** possible site contamination by hazardous materials [or when there is], **a public health emergency or other** immediate danger to human life or safety.

(b) If a funeral service is scheduled with less than 72 hours' notice at a cemetery at which there is a camping site, or a camping site is established at the cemetery less than 72 hours before the scheduled service, the written notice required under subsection (3) of this section may be posted at least 24 hours before removing homeless individuals from the camping site.

[(3)] **(10)** A person authorized to issue a citation for unlawful camping under state law, administrative rule or city or county ordinance may not issue the citation if the citation would be issued within 200 feet of [the] a notice [described in] **required under subsection (3) of this section** and within two hours before or after the notice was posted.

(11) Any law or policy of a city or county that is more specific or offers greater protections to homeless individuals subject to removal from an established camping site preempts contrary provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. Section 1, chapter 21, Oregon Laws 2018, is amended to read:

Sec. 1. (1) The Department of Transportation may enter into an intergovernmental agreement with a city that has a population of 500,000 or more for the removal, storage and disposition of personal property deposited, left or displayed on property that is owned by the department.

(2) Notwithstanding ORS 377.650, 377.653 and 377.655, an intergovernmental agreement entered into under this section may provide alternative provisions related to the removal, storage and disposition of personal property if the alternative provisions conform with the requirements for local government policy for removal of homeless individuals and personal property [described] under ORS 203.079[, except that under this section the notices described in ORS 203.079 must be posted 48 hours in advance].

(3) In addition to the requirements described in subsection (2) of this section, an intergovernmental agreement entered into under this section must include the following:

(a) Requirements for posting notice before the removal of personal property, including but not limited to the following:

(A) That the notice is created using durable materials and securely posted within 30 feet of the personal property to be removed;

(B) That the notice must provide the date the notice begins and the date upon which the city may begin removing personal property; and

(C) That the notice must provide a description of:

(i) How an individual may access personal property that is removed and stored; and

(ii) The length of time the city will store personal property before the city disposes of it.

(b) A requirement that the notice expires 10 days after the city posts the notice.

(c) A severe weather protocol regarding the weather conditions under which the city will not remove personal property.

(d) Provisions related to inventorying and storing the personal property to be removed.

(e) Provisions related to the city relinquishing unclaimed personal property after the storage period to the city's designated agent.

(f) Provisions related to when the city will provide impact reduction services, including but not limited to trash collection.

(4) The [48-hour] **72-hour** notice **under ORS 203.079** required under subsection (2) of this section does not apply:

(a) When there are grounds for law enforcement officials to believe that illegal activities other than camping are occurring;

(b) Where there is an exceptional emergency, such as possible site contamination by hazardous materials; or

(c) When there is immediate danger to human life or safety.

(5) Before the city adopts an intergovernmental agreement under this section or changes to the agreement, the city shall invite public comment on the proposed agreement or the proposed changes to the agreement.

SECTION 3. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by House April 19, 2021

Received by Governor:

Repassed by House June 9, 2021

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Approved:

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

.....M,....., 2021

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

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Kate Brown, Governor

Passed by Senate June 8, 2021

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

.....M,....., 2021

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Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State