Chapter 414

Rehabilitation for the Unemployed; Rural Rehabilitation

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RELIEF AND REHABILITATION FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

414.001 Definitions for ORS 414.001 to 414.014. As used in ORS 414.001 to 414.014, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1) “Agent” means a person engaged and authorized by the commission to serve in any capacity in the administration of ORS 414.001 to 414.014.

(2) “Applicant” means any person applying for any benefits under ORS 414.001 to 414.014.

(3) “Beneficiary” means any person applying for and receiving any benefit under ORS 414.001 to 414.014.

(4) “County commission” means a county commission for self-help and rehabilitation for the unemployed as created by ORS 414.003 to carry on self-help and rehabilitation for the unemployed in its respective county.

(5) “Farm lands” means lands which by reason of proper location, depth, fertility and other physical characteristics are adapted to general or specialized agricultural usage under existing economic conditions.

(6) “State commission” means the State Commission for Self-Help and Rehabilitation for the Unemployed created by ORS 414.003.

414.002 Purpose of ORS 414.001 to 414.014. The purpose of ORS 414.001 to 414.014 is to provide relief for the residents of this state who are unable to obtain employment and for their dependents and to enable them to become self-sustaining and to utilize, for such purpose, lands which belong to the state and its county subdivisions, and for the further purpose of providing for the mutual interchange of services and assistance between those who are to be benefited by ORS 414.001 to 414.014.

414.003 State and county commissions for self-help and rehabilitation. (1) There is created the State Commission for Self-Help and Rehabilitation for the Unemployed for the State of Oregon, which commission is authorized to carry out ORS 414.001 to 414.014.

(2) The state commission shall be composed of the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor, the Director of the State Department of Agriculture and three others to be appointed by the Governor, one to be selected from a group of 10 names of persons submitted by the Oregon State Grange and one to be selected from a group of 10 names of persons submitted by the State Board of Forestry. The term of office of each of the three appointive members shall be at the pleasure of the Governor. The state commission so composed shall serve without compensation, but members of the commission shall be allowed their actual and necessary traveling expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties.

(3) The state commission shall operate and carry on its functions and duties under the direction of the State Relief Committee as created by chapter 15, Oregon Laws 1933, during the existence of the State Relief Committee as provided by law. After the termination of the State Relief Committee by proclamation of the Governor, the state commission shall carry on its activities, functions and duties, under its own direction and the authority vested in it by virtue of ORS 414.001 to 414.014.

(4) Within each county there is created a county commission for self-help and rehabilitation for the unemployed, to consist of three persons, who shall be selected by the county relief committee created by chapter 15, Oregon Laws 1933, and who shall be subject to removal by such county relief committee. Any or all of the members composing the county commission may be members of the county relief committee, or may be persons selected by the county relief committee from persons residing within the county.

(5) County committees shall operate and carry on the functions and duties under the direction of the county relief committees of their respective counties during the existence of the county relief committees as provided by law. After the termination of the several county relief committees by proclamation of the Governor, the respective county commissions shall carry on their activities, functions and duties solely under the direction of the state commission.

414.004 Funds and resources used. Activities under ORS 414.001 to 414.014 shall be carried on with funds and resources appropriated and made available by section 14, chapter 8, Oregon Laws 1933 (Second Special Session), and other funds and resources procured or made available by any present or future Act of the Congress of the United States, from funds and resources made or to be made available by the several counties of the state or by private contributions or
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donations, or from any other sources whatsoever.

414.005 State and county to cooperate. All state officials, employees, departments and institutions, counties and county governments and county agricultural agents, shall assist the state and county commissions in carrying out ORS 414.001 to 414.014.

414.006 Application for benefits; approval or rejection. (1) Any person who is a resident of the state may make application to come under the benefits of ORS 414.001 to 414.014. The application may be filed with the state commission or with any county commission within the state. Preference shall be given to:

(a) Residents within the county in which the development is to take place.
(b) Residents of the state for a period of five years.
(c) Those who possess a satisfactory agricultural training or background.

(2) After such application has been filed with the state commission, or any county commission, it shall be approved or rejected by the county commission of the county wherein the beneficiary seeks to secure the benefits of ORS 414.001 to 414.014, and such county commission thereafter shall approve or reject such application, and such decision shall be final.

414.007 Transfer of state and county lands acquired by foreclosure to county commissions. The State Land Board shall prepare and deliver to the state commission a list of all farm lands upon which the state has foreclosed mortgages and now has sheriffs' deeds, and which have been properly classified by individuals trained and experienced in land classification, itemizing the total amount of acreage in each county of the state, and upon which there are no existing leases or contracts of sale. Upon application of the state commission the State Land Board shall furnish to such commission the legal description of any such lands. The board of county commissioners of each county shall prepare and deliver to the state commission a list of all farm lands held in the name of such county which have been foreclosed upon, either for taxes or otherwise, and which have been properly classified by individuals trained and experienced in land classification, and upon which there are no existing leases or contracts of sale. Upon request of the state commission, the board of county commissioners of any county shall deliver to said commission the legal description of any and all such lands, and the State Land Board and the board of county commissioners shall transfer the lands mentioned in this section to the county commission located in the county wherein such lands are located, upon terms and conditions mutually satisfactory.

414.008 Lands available for use; allotment to applicant. (1) All the lands of the classes described in ORS 414.007 and all other lands belonging to the state government which are suitable to carry out the purpose of ORS 414.001 to 414.014 and are available for those purposes, and all lands which may be donated to the state commission, hereby are made available for use by the state commission and county commissions for the purpose of carrying out the terms of ORS 414.001 to 414.014. Such commissions may sell, lease, let, convey and permit the use and occupancy of any such lands by any beneficiary. To any applicant deemed qualified under ORS 414.001 to 414.014, any county commission may allot a tract of farm land for his exclusive and independent use, in extent of area and upon such terms of use, occupancy, lease or sale as the county commission may provide; provided, that in no case shall more than 10 acres be allotted to any one applicant except when in the judgment of the commission the land is of such low productive character that an increased area of land appears necessary to enable the beneficiary to maintain himself and dependents.

(2) The state commission and county commissions may exchange any lands made available by this section for other lands, which in the opinion of the state commission or county commissions of the various counties may be deemed suitable for carrying out the purposes and intent of ORS 414.001 to 414.014, said exchange, however, to be made subject to the approval of the county court of the county wherein the land is situated.

(3) If any beneficiary is occupying such lands by any agreement other than an agreement for purchase, such beneficiary shall have an option to purchase such lands under terms to be prescribed by the county commission of the county in which said land is situated and in conformity with the general rules laid down by the state commission. However, the beneficiary shall signify his intention, in writing, to purchase such
lands, upon such terms as may be prescribed by such county commission, and shall exercise his option so to purchase at any time prior to the expiration of his right to the use, occupancy or lease of such lands, and not otherwise.

414.009 General authority of state and county commissions. The state commission and county commissions may employ necessary agents and fix their compensation, if and when funds are available for this purpose, and make and adopt such rules and regulations to govern any and all phases of the work of the state commission and the county commissions, and do any and all other things necessary or convenient to carry out ORS 414.001 to 414.014.

414.010 County commission to assist beneficiary to secure equipment. The county commissions shall plan with and assist the beneficiary in securing any necessary equipment, improvements, livestock and supplies essential to the operation of any tract of land allotted to the beneficiary.

414.011 Utilization of services of beneficiaries in improvement of lands. The county commissions may utilize the services of the beneficiaries in the improvement, preparation and cultivation of lands coming under jurisdiction of the county commissions.

414.012 Disposition of crops from allotted lands. Any products of the soil raised on allotted lands which are turned over to the state commission or county commissions, shall not be sold by said state commission or county commissions in the markets of this or any other state, nor in any way disposed of except to the beneficiaries or for purposes of relief of the destitute within this state.

414.013 Conservation of surplus agricultural products. The state commission is authorized to provide for the conservation of fruits, vegetables and other agricultural products otherwise left to waste for want of market or demand. Such products may be received, gathered, preserved, stored and otherwise conserved and used for the purposes of ORS 414.001 to 414.014, and for the relief of the destitute within the state. The state commission is further authorized to organize and avail itself of volunteer help to bring about the purposes of this section.

414.014 Organization of volunteer instruction units. The various county commissions are authorized to organize in the various counties of the state volunteer units to instruct the beneficiaries in the care and cultivation of the soil, and in the use of farm equipment and the erection of necessary improvements on such tracts, and otherwise to provide such instruction and, if they shall deem advisable, to standardize the same.

414.015 Application by Governor to federal agency for work relief loan funds. The Governor shall make application to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for advancement to the State of Oregon of funds in the sum of $10 million, when and if said corporation is empowered to loan funds for such purposes, or to such other source or agency as the United States Government may set up and empower so to do, to be used for the purpose of furnishing work relief to needy and distressed people in this state.

414.016 Loaning funds to employers for work relief purposes. The funds secured under ORS 414.015, unless other disposition is rendered necessary by federal requirements or the conditions imposed by the source from which such funds are secured, shall be deposited with the State Treasurer in a separate fund subject to the Governor's order and shall be loaned to employers in all lines of agriculture and industry in the state to be used by them to pay wages to additional persons by them employed, and shall be advanced to such employers under rules to be made as provided in ORS 414.017. Unless prevented by the requirements referred to in this section, any loan made to an employer under this section shall be for a period not to exceed five years, payable one-fifth each year, and shall draw interest at the rate of five percent per annum. All such loans shall fully and adequately be secured.

414.017 Supervision of loans. The expenditure of all such funds shall be under the direct supervision and, on order of the Governor, who may make all rules and regulations necessary or proper for the administration of ORS 414.015 to 414.017, and shall appoint a committee of three representative persons in the state who shall be known as State of Oregon Unemployment Work Relief Commission and who shall be entrusted with the details of administration, such as the actual making of such loans and the collection thereof, and the interest thereon, the
investigation of the security offered and given therefor, and to see that the moneys advanced thereon shall properly be applied only to work relief, and the collection of the principal and interest of loans made. Said members of the committee shall serve without pay, but shall be entitled to actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the duties imposed upon them, and may employ the necessary assistance for the proper discharge of their duties. The difference in interest between that paid and received by the state shall be available for the payment of the expenses of administering ORS 414.015 to 414.017, profit, if any, to go into the General Fund at the end of each year.

414.018 and 414.019  [Reserved for expansion]

RURAL REHABILITATION

414.020 Transfer of assets by Oregon Rural Rehabilitation Corporation to Federal Government. (1) The Oregon Rural Rehabilitation Corporation is directed to convey, transfer and assign to the United States of America all its assets and property, whether real, personal or mixed, so that the administration of the assets and expenditure of the funds of the said corporation may be coordinated with expenditures of the United States Department of Agriculture, Farm Security Administration, for relief and rural rehabilitation purposes in the State of Oregon. The assets and property thus conveyed, transferred and assigned shall be accepted by the United States of America subject to all liabilities, commitments, obligations, contracts and agreements of the corporation.

(2) Any funds transferred or any funds realized from any of the assets and property transferred shall be held in the Treasury of the United States as a trust fund and all such assets and property shall be continuously available as a revolving fund for relief and rural rehabilitation purposes in the State of Oregon.

(3) When the Federal Government ceases using these assets and property or the proceeds thereof for such purposes, the remainder thereof, after the liquidation of any claims then existing against such assets and property, shall be retransferred to the corporation, except that if the corporation is not in existence at such time said remainder shall be turned over to the State of Oregon.

414.030 Authority of Governor to secure a return of funds transferred under ORS 414.020. The Governor hereby is authorized to make application for and receive all funds transferred to the United States pursuant to ORS 414.020, sign receipts and do all things necessary to secure a return of the funds to the State of Oregon. All moneys received under this section shall be deposited with the State Treasurer and shall be credited to the General Fund.