Relating to transitional housing; amending ORS 446.265 and 446.325; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 446.265 is amended to read:
446.265. (1) Inside an urban growth boundary, a municipality may authorize the establishment of a campground inside an urban growth boundary to be used for providing transitional housing accommodations. The accommodations may consist of separate facilities, in the form of yurts, for use transitional housing accommodations used as individual living units by one or more individuals or by families. The person establishing the accommodations may provide access to water, toilet, shower, laundry, cooking, telephone or other services either through separate or shared facilities. The accommodations shall provide parking facilities and walkways.

(2) Use of transitional housing accommodations described under subsection (1) of this section shall be limited to persons who lack permanent or safe shelter and who cannot be placed in other low income housing. A municipality may limit the maximum amount of time that an individual or a family may use the accommodations.

(3) Campgrounds providing transitional housing accommodations described under subsection (1) of this section may be operated by private persons or nonprofit organizations. The shared facilities of the campgrounds are subject to regulation under the recreation park specialty code described under ORS 446.310 to 446.350. Transitional housing accommodations are intended to be used by individuals or families on a limited basis for seasonal, emergency or transitional housing purposes and may include yurts, huts, cabins, fabric structures, tents and similar accommodations. The transitional housing accommodations may provide parking facilities, walkways and access to water, toilet, shower, laundry, cooking, telephone or other services either through separate or shared facilities. The Oregon Health Authority may develop public health best practices for shared health and sanitation facilities for transitional housing accommodations.

(4) Transitional housing accommodations are not subject to ORS chapter 90.

(5) Campgrounds established for providing transitional housing accommodations shall not be allowed on more than two parcels in a municipality. In approving the use of parcels for a campground, the municipality shall give preference to locations that have access to grocery stores and public transit services.

(6) As used in this section, “yurt” means a round, domed tent of canvas or other weather resistant material, having a rigid framework, wooden floor, one or more windows or skylights and that may have plumbing, electrical service or heat.

SECTION 2. ORS 446.325 is amended to read:
446.325. (1) Persons and public bodies, as defined in ORS 174.109, that operate transitional housing accommodations under ORS 446.265 (3), timber companies and private utilities may not establish or operate a recreation park without complying with the rules of the Oregon Health Authority and securing the approval of the Director of the Oregon Health Authority or designee but are exempt from the licensing requirement of ORS 446.320. The director or designee may delegate, to a health official having sufficient environmental health specialists, the authority to approve such recreation parks.

(2) ORS 446.310 to 446.350 do not apply to:
(a) Any structure designed for and occupied as a single family residence in which no more than two sleeping rooms are provided on a daily or weekly basis for the use of no more than a total of six travelers or transients at any one time for a charge or fee paid or to be paid for the rental or use of the facilities;
(b) Any temporary camping sites used solely and incidentally in the course of backpacking, hiking, horseback packing, canoeing, rafting or other expedition, unless the expedition is part of an organizational camp program;
(c) A yurt, as defined in ORS 446.265, that is used as a living unit in transitional housing accommodations.

SECTION 3. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect on its passage.

Approved by the Governor June 17, 2019
Filed in the office of Secretary of State June 18, 2019
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