

**2007 Regular Legislative Session**  
**FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**  
**Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office**

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**MEASURE NUMBER:** HB 2961                      **STATUS:** A-Engrossed  
**SUBJECT:** Domestic Violence Clinical Legal Education; fee for filing of petitions and responses in actions for marital annulment, dissolution or separation  
**GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED:** Department of Higher Education; Oregon Judicial Department  
**PREPARED BY:** Adrienne Sexton  
**REVIEWED BY:** Steve Bender, Robin LaMonte  
**DATE:** May 7, 2007

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	<u><b>2007-2009</b></u>	<u><b>2009-2011</b></u>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>		
<b>Department of Higher Education – Other Funds - Limited</b>		
Personal Services	\$ 40,000	\$ 44,000
Special Payments	\$ 310,400	\$ 423,200

**REVENUES:**  
**Refer to statement issued by the Legislative Revenue Office**

<b>POSITIONS / FTE:</b>		
Grant Administration	1 / .25	1 / .25

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2008

**GOVERNOR’S BUDGET:** This bill is not anticipated by the Governor’s recommended budget.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANDATE:** This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

**COMMENTS:** The measure would impose a \$10 fee to file petitions and responses in court actions for marital annulment, dissolution or separation. The revenue would be transmitted by the courts to the Domestic Violence Clinical Legal Education Account for use by the Department of Higher Education (DHED) in a grant program to accredited institutions of higher education that provide civil legal services to victims of domestic violence, stalking or sexual assault. The grants are further limited to programs operated with at least one non-profit provider of specified services, including victim counseling and student training. The Legislative Fiscal Office understands that at present, eligible higher education institutions are the laws schools at the University of Oregon, Willamette University, and Lewis and Clark College.

For DHED to administer a grant program that includes non-public institutions, the Chancellor’s office would need to establish processes and expectations related to, among other issues, the institutions’ programs annual reporting to DHED of the services provided, distribution of funding by DHED, and financial accountability, represented in a memorandum of understanding with each eligible institution. DHED’s estimate of administrative costs is approximately 10% of the revenues granted, after the first biennium’s start-up costs. Because of the nature of the work required, the personnel costs would likely be distributed among existing staff with varying responsibilities, but the total represents the functional part-time equivalent of one position.

Special payments for grants are estimated based on the revenue projections made by the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD).

OJD does not anticipate a fiscal impact at the circuit court level.