

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

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**MEASURE NUMBER:** HB 3318                      **STATUS:** A-Engrossed  
**SUBJECT:** Redesignates special campus security officers within Oregon University System as public safety officers.  
**GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED:** Oregon University System, Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, Public Defense Services Commission  
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**REVIEWED BY:** Steve Bender, Doug Wilson, Robin LaMonte  
**DATE:** June 23, 2007

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	<u>2007-2009</u>	<u>2009-2011</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b> See Comments.		

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** On passage.

**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:** This measure requires the State Board of Higher Education to authorize each institution under its control to commission six or more employees as public safety officers. Currently, the Oregon University System (OUS) designates their security staff as "special campus security officers" who have limited powers for making arrests but cannot carry firearms. Under HB 3318-A, OUS would be employing public safety officers who would have the same powers and training as law enforcement officers such as local police officers, sheriffs' deputies and Oregon State Patrol (OSP) troopers. The following assumptions are used in outlining the fiscal impact of this measure.

1. A total of 59 public safety officers would be hired by OUS based on the current number of campus security officers at each campus and the minimum number of six for each institution required by the bill. This number also assumes that the current agreement that Oregon State University has with OSP for security would continue. There is also no offset of costs for any current agreements that institutions have with local law enforcement or other non-OUS security.
2. Each of the public safety officers employed by OUS would undergo the 16-week basic training course provided by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) just as any new police officer, deputy or OSP trooper must complete. It is assumed that all 59 new officers would complete the training. This number could be reduced by hiring currently certified officers but if they came from other Oregon law enforcement agencies, new officers would likely have to be trained to replace them. This analysis assumes that there is no attrition and that all recruits who start the program, finish the program. Any attrition experienced by the program will increase the cost of the measure.
3. Even though the language of the bill adds the proposed public safety officers to the current list of eligible personnel whose compensation and training may be reimbursed by DPSST while the officers are attending the basic law enforcement training, DPSST will not be required to make such reimbursement. Currently DPSST does not provide any reimbursement for any other law

enforcement personnel on the list. If the costs of OUS employees were reimbursed it is assumed that costs for all eligible law enforcement “recruits” participating in DPSST training would be reimbursed. This would dramatically increase the fiscal impact of this measure.

The **Oregon University System (OUS)** estimates that the basic compensation for the new OUS public safety officers would be comparable to that currently received by new OSP troopers including benefits and retirement. Based on this assumption, OUS estimates that the net cost increase for 2007-09 over the amount currently budgeted for the existing campus security personnel would total \$2,618,115. Other costs that OUS estimate it would have to pay include ongoing training and basic operating costs (\$162,309), one-time equipment costs for the officers (\$58,600), and one-time costs for equipment needs on a campus basis (\$280,000). Total costs for 2007-09 are estimated by OUS at \$3,119,024. If these costs were paid at the current split for OUS classified staff (39% General Fund and 61% Other Funds), the General Fund cost is estimated at \$1,216,419. In addition, if these individuals are designated as public safety officers, they will be eligible for retirement at age 50 with partial benefits or full benefits at age 50 with 25 years of service in the retirement system. Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) staff estimate that the addition of these employees would not have an actuarial cost impact. These costs assume immediate training of the current staff or the immediate training of new personnel. Not factored into these estimates are the costs of security during the training of the new OUS public safety officers.

The **Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST)** currently funds training for the 16 week basic law enforcement training out of its budget at a cost of \$14,980 for each recruit. This includes the actual training costs as well as room and board costs. Based on the assumption of 59 new OUS recruits, the total DPSST training costs for 2007-09 would be \$883,820. There would be 2009-11 costs comparable to the per recruit costs for 2007-09 for any turnover in staff OUS experiences during that period. The DPSST is funded with Criminal Fines and Assessment (CFAA) revenues and any CFAA not allocated to specific programs is transferred to the General Fund. Therefore there would be a negative \$883,820 impact on the General Fund as a result of these training costs either as direct General Fund expenditures or as lost General Fund revenue if these costs are funded with CFAA resources. It should also be noted that DPSST is currently near capacity in the use of its facilities as well as its instruction resources. The combination of this bill and others being considered by the Legislature could lead to the need to reevaluate the current staffing and physical plant considerations. This could add to the overall costs of the agency.

As noted above, DPSST does not currently reimburse law enforcement agencies for the compensation and other training costs of their recruits during the DPSST 16 week training. If DPSST were to reimburse OUS for these costs, the estimated total cost would be \$1.3 million for 2007-09. It would be likely that DPSST would also have to start reimbursing these costs for other eligible employees at a cost of up to \$15 million (General Fund impact).

The **Oregon Judicial Department** is unable to determine how many additional misdemeanor and felony cases would be filed as a result of passage of this bill. The court operation workload expenditure equivalent and payments impact is \$254.89 for a misdemeanor case and \$510.56 for a felony case.

The **Public Defense Services Commission (PDSC)** is unable to determine how many additional misdemeanor and felony cases would be filed as a result of passage of this bill. PDSC could incur additional costs if the frequency of felony cases increases due to the increased presence of public safety officers on the university campuses.