**2009 Regular Legislative Session**
**FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**
**Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office**

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**MEASURE NUMBER:** HB 2970 **STATUS:** A Engrossed
**SUBJECT:** Interdepartmental work group to expand eligible claims on the earned income credit
**GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED:** Department of Housing and Community Services
**PREPARED BY:** Dawn Farr
**REVIEWED BY:** Michelle Deister
**DATE:** April 23, 2009

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| | 2009-2011 | 2011-2013 |
|---|---|---|
| **EXPENDITURES:** | | |
| See Comments. | | |

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2010.

**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 bill directs the Housing and Community Services Department (HCSD) to convene an interdepartmental work group to expand the number of eligible taxpayers who claim the earned income tax credit, and to report findings to an interim legislative committee not later than October 1 of each year.

HCSD indicates that this work will be minimal and can be assumed with existing Other Funds resources. The Department estimates that they will dedicate a total of 0.50 FTE during the last eighteen months of the 2009-11 biennium spread over two positions to implement the bill. This assumes that the work group will meet approximately six times to identify methods and strategies along with a plan for implementing education and outreach activities that target eligible tax players. Involved in this effort will be policy staff responsible for convening the work group, coordinating agendas and materials, and general communication with stakeholders outside the work group. In addition, research staff will be responsible for conducting research on alternative outreach efforts, tracking success rates of outreach efforts, and reporting findings to an interim legislative committee. The Department indicates the impacts of reprioritizing existing staff resources to coordinate the work group will delay work on other projects underway such as providing support to local areas developing 10-year plans to end homelessness and work with state and local entities to further reduce hunger and homelessness.