

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

MEASURE NUMBER: HB 3041

STATUS: Original

SUBJECT: Pilot project within the Oregon Department of Education and health literacy programs in federal Head Start programs

GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Department of Education

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REVIEWED BY: Monica Brown

DATE: April 3, 2009

	<u>2009-2011</u>	<u>2011-2013</u>
EXPENDITURES: See analysis		

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.

ANALYSIS: House Bill 3041 directs the Department of Education (ODE) to establish a pilot project for the purpose of assisting federal Head Start program providers in Oregon with adopting and implementing a health literacy program that empowers consumers of health care to better communicate with health care professionals and to more effectively seek appropriate levels of care. The measure directs ODE to select no more than six providers and provide them with assistance by seeking contributions of funds and assistance from the U.S. Government and facilitate communication among the providers regarding the adoption and implementation of a health literacy program. A report from ODE is due to the Legislative Assembly no later than October 1, 2010, and the pilot project is repealed on the convening of the next regular biennial legislative session.

ODE assumes that the pilot program would begin in the 2009-11 biennium. Current ODE staff would be assigned to the start-up and grant administrative activities for the pilot project. ODE estimates the impact on current staffing to be a workload equivalent of one Office Specialist 2 at 40 hours and one Fiscal Analyst 2 at 80 hours. ODE values this staff time at approximately \$3,200. ODE assumes that it would contract with a grant writer who would both communicate with the project participants and prepare the legislative report; the cost of this is anticipated to be no more than \$16,000. These cost estimates are based on the assumption that ODE only identifies three providers for the project; costs could be higher if more providers are selected. It is not known how much funding will be available to these providers; therefore ODE cannot predict how many providers (up to six) it will select to be a part of the pilot project. LFO notes that other bills are pending before this Legislative Assembly that also would require an expenditure of ODE staff time. LFO also notes that the pilot project is effective on passage and could impact ODE in the 2007-09 biennium.