

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

MEASURE NUMBER: SB 8

STATUS: A Engrossed

SUBJECT: Allows the Department of Human Services to enter into agreements with other states to include out-of-state health care providers in the registry of emergency health care providers who are available to provide health care services during an emergency or crisis

GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Department of Human Services, Department of Administrative Services, Oregon Military Department

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DATE: April 24, 2009

2009-2011

2011-2013

EXPENDITURES:

See Analysis

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.

ANALYSIS: This measure allows the Department of Human Services (DHS) to enter into agreements with other states to include out-of-state health care providers in the registry of emergency health care providers who are available to provide health care services during an emergency or crisis. The bill stipulates that during a state of a declared emergency or proclaimed public health emergency, a health care provider who is licensed, certified or otherwise authorized or permitted by the laws of another state to administer health care services, and who is registered with DHS may administer health care services in this state as if the health care provider were licensed in this state.

Passage of this bill would have minimal fiscal impact on DHS. The Public Health Division of DHS currently maintains a registry of in-state volunteers. The addition of out-of-state volunteers will be accomplished with existing staff and resources.

Passage of this bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the state's risk management and workers' compensation programs. The multiple unknown variables that would determine the fiscal impact include: (1) the frequency and magnitude of emergency events; (2) the number of registered volunteers from out-of-state; (3) the number of volunteers from out-of-state injured; (4) the number of volunteers from out-of-state who file a workers' compensation claim; (5) number of volunteers from out-of-state who take legal action against the state under Oregon Tort Claims Act; and (6) the amount of any awards for damages.

Note that typically workers' compensation and tort costs are not eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding. If the bill results in an increase in workers' compensation payments or tort costs, future increases in General Fund risk management charges may be necessary to fund these costs.