

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2482

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2011 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Creates Task Force on Shared Housing of Special Populations in County Jails.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Corrections, Oregon Youth Authority (OYA), Counties

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

See Analysis

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 2482 creates the eleven-member Task Force on the Shared Housing of Special Populations in County Jails charged with exploring the feasibility of dedicating certain pods, cell blocks or other housing units within a local correctional facility to specific categories of inmates that require segregated housing and allocating the use of these units on a regional basis. The task force is directed to submit a report that may include recommendations for legislation to an interim committee of the legislature no later than October 1, 2012. The bill contains an emergency clause and is effective on passage. The task force sunsets on the convening date of the 2013 regular legislative session.

The bill states that members of the task force may be reimbursed for travel and other expenses. The task force consists of eleven members and may meet at times and places specified by the call of the chair or a majority of the voting members. At this time, per diem and travel reimbursement costs are indeterminate depending on the frequency and location of task force meetings, as well as the geographic locations of task force members. The bill stipulates that claims for reimbursement expenses are to be paid out of funds appropriated to the Department of Corrections (DOC) for the purposes of the task force. However, the bill does not specify the amount of funds to be appropriated. The task force is effective on passage and could impact the DOC budget in the 2009-11 biennium.

The bill directs the Department of Corrections to provide staff support to the task force. DOC anticipates reprioritizing the duties and responsibilities of existing staff to provide administrative and accounting support the task force.

State and local agencies identified as participants of the task force include the Department of Corrections, the Oregon Youth Authority, the Association of Oregon Counties and county sheriffs. This fiscal assumes that membership on the task force will have minimal fiscal impact on these agencies and that any resulting work can be absorbed with existing resources. Each agency will have to reprioritize duties and responsibilities of existing staff to allow participation on the task force.