

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2855

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

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Measure Description:

Creates State and Local Government Efficiency Task Force.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Office of the Governor, Secretary of State, Judicial Department, Legislative Fiscal Office, Association of Oregon Counties, League of Oregon Cities, Legislative Administration

Expenditure 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:

HB 2920 (2009) established the Task Force on Effective and Cost-Efficient Service Provision, charged with reviewing state and county shared services in four areas: assessment and taxation, elections, human services and criminal justice. In its final report, the Task Force presented 23 recommendations. One of the 23 recommendations was to continue the work of the Task Force, modifying the focus to include natural resources and education while continuing criminal justice, human services and elections.

HB 2855 follows this recommendation by establishing an 18 member State and Local Government Efficiency Task Force charged with reviewing opportunities to provide services in the most effective and cost-efficient manner through reorganization of the way services are delivered by state and local government entities and through specific process improvements. The bill directs the Task Force to submit an interim report to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly no later than January 31, 2012 and a final report no later than October 1, 2012.

The Governor's Office, county commissioners, special district board of directors, Secretary of State, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court were identified as participants of the Task Force. This fiscal assumes that membership on the Task Force will have minimal 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.

Members of the board who are members of the Legislative Assembly are entitled to compensation and expense reimbursement as outlined in ORS 171.072. The Legislative Assembly budget contains funding for the participation of legislators on interim committees. If the cumulative effect of the enactment of other bills exceeds expenditure levels assumed in Legislative Administration's budget, Legislative Administration may need to seek additional resources.

The bill directs the task force to use the services of permanent staff of the office of the Governor, Secretary of State, Judicial Department and Legislative Fiscal Office, as well as staff assistance from the Association of Oregon Counties, and the League of Oregon Cities. Based on the time investment and workload devoted to the Task Force on Effective and Cost-Efficient Service Provision, these agencies anticipate the fiscal impact of this bill to be minimal. However, the Legislative Fiscal Office notes that if the staffing requirements exceed expectations, these agencies may need to return to the Emergency

Board or Legislative Assembly to seek position authority for additional staff in the event that reprioritization of duties and responsibilities of existing staff is not feasible. The task force is effective on passage and could impact the staffing of these agencies in the 2009-11 biennium.