FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

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Measure Description:

Creates the Court Appointed Special Advocate Task Force.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

State Commission on Children and Families, Legislative Administration Committee

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 3102 B-Engrossed establishes the nine-member Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Task Force charged with studying and making recommendations regarding the appropriate structure and operation for funding and administration of the CASA Volunteer Programs in Oregon. The bill directs the task force to report to appropriate interim committees no later than January 15, 2012. The task force sunsets on June 30, 2012. The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect on passage.

The Legislative Administration Committee (LAC) is directed to staff the task force. This fiscal assumes that LAC will reprioritize duties and responsibilities of existing staff and use existing resources to support the task force.

The fiscal impact to the State Commission on Children and Families is indeterminate, but anticipated to be minimal. The two members of the task force who are members of the Legislative Assembly are not entitled to mileage expenses or a per diem. Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are entitled to reimbursements for expenses. Claims for expenses are to be paid out of funds appropriated to the State Commission on Children and Families for the operation of the CASA Volunteer Programs. The bill allows the task force to meet at times and places specified by the call of the chair or the majority of the voting members. At this time, the fiscal impact of meeting and reimbursement expenses is indeterminate depending on the geographic location of task force members, as well as the locations and frequencies of meetings. The task force is authorized to accept donations of staff support, office space and equipment from advocacy or service provider organizations to assist the task force in the performance of its functions. The fiscal impact on Legislative Administration Committee and State Commission on Children and Families is also dependent on donations available to the agency.

Page 1 of 1 HB 3102 - B

Measure: HB 3102 - B