FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

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Date: 4/13/2011

Measure Description:

Establishes Task Force on Oregon Heritage Vitality to study public funding of historical societies and other organizations related to cultural heritage of Oregon.

Measure: HB 3210 - A

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), Legislative Assembly

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 3210 establishes a 14-member Task Force on Oregon Heritage Vitality charged with studying, assessing and making recommendations to encourage coordinated efforts at state, county and city levels to improve heritage tourism, history education, historic preservation and related economic development. The task force is required to submit a report that may include recommendations for legislation to an appropriate joint legislative committee or interim committee of the Legislative Assembly no later than October 1, 2012. The task force sunsets on February 4, 2013. The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect on passage.

The bill states that members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly may be reimbursed for travel and other expenses. 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, per diem and travel reimbursement costs are anticipated to be minimal, but indeterminate depending on the number, frequency and location of task force meetings. The bill stipulates that claims for reimbursement expenses are to be paid out of funds appropriated to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) for the purposes of the task force. However, the bill does not specify the amount of funds to be appropriated.

The bill also directs the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to provide staff support to the task force. OPRD anticipates reprioritizing the duties and responsibilities of existing staff to provide administrative and accounting support 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 Oregon Heritage Commission, the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Association of Oregon Counties, the League of Oregon Cities, the Oregon Historical Society, the Oregon Cultural Trust, the Oregon Museums Association and the Oregon Tourism Commission are identified as participants of the task force. This fiscal assumes that membership on the task force will have minimal impact on these entities and that any resulting work can be absorbed with existing resources.

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