FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

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Date: 3/31/11

Measure Description:

Requires state agency to report to Director of Oregon Department of Administrative Services when full-time equivalent budgeted position is vacant for six months.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Statewide

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:

The fiscal impact of the measure is indeterminate. The existing statute that the measure amends allows for the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to consider positions that have be vacant for over six consecutive months when making allotment approval, increase or decrease decisions based on estimates provided by agencies for a given allotment period.

This measure requires an agency, if it wants to retain a vacant position included in its report, to provide justification for keeping the position. Should DAS disagree with the agency's justification, DAS would provide the agency with the reason why the justification submitted by the agency was insufficient and the agency would be disallowed from filling the position. The bill does not change the department's current discretion to modify the agency's allotment in response to the review of vacant positions.

The measure may or may not result in a reduction of actual expenditures or changes in an agency's allotment. The measure does, however, change the current process by excluding the Legislative Assembly, the Judicial Branch, the Public Defense Services Commission, and the offices of the Secretary of State and State Treasurer from vacant position reporting. The same entities are also excluded from the new retention justification process. These changes may impact budget policy and reduce the amount of fiscal information routinely available for use and review by the Legislative Fiscal Office. The potential impacts support the subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means that is currently placed on the bill.

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