

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3418

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

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Date: 3/16/2011

Measure Description:

Creates Task Force on Higher Education Student and Institutional Success.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon University System (OUS), Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD)

Expenditure Impact Summary:

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 3418 establishes a 13 member Task Force on Higher Education Student and Institutional Success charged with evaluating best practices and models for achieving student and institutional success, including reviewing alternative funding options. The task force is required to submit periodic updates and a final report to an interim committee related to higher education by October 1, 2012. The bill contains an emergency clause and is effective upon passage. The task force sunsets on the date of the convening of the 2013 regular session.

State agencies identified as participants of the task force include the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), Oregon University System (OUS), and the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD). Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation. 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.

The bill directs the Joint Boards of Education to provide staff support to the task force. The Joint Boards of Education is comprised of the Oregon State Board of Higher Education and the Oregon State Board of Education, and is staffed by the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, and the System Office of the Oregon University System.

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. In addition to regular organizational and business meetings, the task force is required hold public hearings throughout the state to gather input. At this time, the fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate depending on the locations and frequencies of meetings and public hearings. In addition, if the staffing workload and expertise needed by the task force exceed expectations, the task force may need to obtain the services of a contractor to facilitate the public hearings, and assist in the gathering of data necessary to product the final report.

Note that the bill does not specify the agency(ies) responsible for the expenses of the task force.