

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 560 - A

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

Prepared by: John Terpening
Reviewed by: Monica Brown
Date: 4-8-2011

Measure Description:

Modifies filing requirements for local district continuous improvement plans.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Education, School Districts

Summary of 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:

The measure modifies the requirements and the frequency for local school districts to file continuous improvement plans with the Department of Education. The measure allows school districts to submit the plans periodically, or at the Department's request, if there have been substantial changes to the plan. Substantial changes are defined by rule of the Department. Currently, school districts are required to update continuous improvement plans on a biennial basis and the Department receives and reviews approximately 100 plans per year.

The Department notes that school improvement plans do not typically have substantial changes on a biennial basis. The removal of the requirement to submit a plan every two years would allow schools to only submit the plan when there are substantial changes, as defined by rule, or when specifically requested by the Department.

The Department anticipates cost savings of staff time and resources for the potential reduction in improvement plans that must be reviewed. The Department states that the measure will not require a reduction of staff, but that the workload of existing staff will shift to other priorities.

The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) notes that depending on the cumulative workload savings created by the measure, the legislature may need to review staffing requirements in the future should this legislation pass.

LFO has contacted school district representatives for a fiscal impact statement but has not received a response. If fiscal impact information is provided from school districts, LFO will issue a revised fiscal impact statement.