

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 563

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

Prepared by: Kim To
Reviewed by: Linda Ames, Laurie Byerly
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Measure Description:

Allows retired health care provider to register as emergency health care provider and to provide health care services without license or certification during Governor-declared emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Department of Administrative Services (DAS)

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:

SB 563 allows retired health care providers (who were authorized or permitted by Oregon laws to administer health care services immediately before retiring) to be included in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) registry of emergency health care providers who are available to provide health care services during a Governor-declared emergency.

Passage of this bill would have an indeterminate, but minimal fiscal impact on the Oregon Health Authority. If this bill passes, OHA anticipates using existing staffing and resources to engage in rulemaking, and to work closely with existing state health licensing boards to establish protocols to include retired volunteers in the registry. OHA anticipates the need for background checks for this group of volunteers as part of due diligence. The Oregon State Police currently charge \$47.25 for a background check. Because the number of volunteers who will sign up for the registry is unknown at this time, the total cost of background checks to OHA is indeterminate.

Passage of this bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the Department of Administrative Services. Current law allows workers' compensation and coverage under Oregon Tort Claims Act for health care providers who volunteer to perform health care services without compensation. The inclusion of retired health care providers could expand the state's exposure to claims. Note that typically workers' compensation and tort costs are not eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding. If the bill results in an increase in workers' compensation payments or tort costs, future increases in General Fund risk management charges may be necessary to fund these costs.