

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 8 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Frederick, Greenlick, Harker, Parrish, Thompson, Weidner, Gilliam, Tomei

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Jennifer Kellar, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/4, 4/11, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Provides that money from judgment in a settlement agreement for minor ward in the custody of the Department of Human Services (DHS) be paid into a trust account or subaccount with the Oregon State Treasury (OST). Accounts are to be established by DHS or the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for the purpose of receiving awarded money.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Explanation of pooled OST account and child welfare accounting sub-system
- Number of children utilizing welfare trust accounts
- Usage examples and average dollar amounts of settlement agreements
- Confirmation that account funds follow child if no longer child welfare client

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: There are approximately 25,000 Children, Adults and Families (CAF) trust accounts managed by DHS and approximately 10,000 have received settlement monies. The agency contends that implementation of individual trust accounts would result in the need for additional resources as an automated process would become manual and additional banking fees would be incurred for accounts established outside the OST.

OST requires that all investments follow Portfolio Rules for the Oregon Short-Term Fund (OSTF) which means that invested funds shall remain sufficiently liquid to meet all agency and local government operating requirements that may be reasonably anticipated.