

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 4014 - A

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2012 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Prepared by: John Terpening
Reviewed by: Monica Brown
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Measure Description:

Abolishes District Best Business Practices Advisory Committee and authority to conduct best business practices audits.

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 removes requirements of the District Best Business Practices Advisory Committee, certain annual reports and data collection for the Department of Education and school districts.

The District Best Business Practices Advisory Committee that was established in HB 3141 (2007), allowed the Department of Education to contract with the Secretary of State to conduct audits of the best practices of school districts and education service districts. The Department was permitted by law to spend up to \$800,000 per biennium from the State School Fund for these audits. Abolishment of the committee and the authority to conduct these audits will return the \$800,000 to the State School Fund for distribution to schools. The Legislative Fiscal Office notes that expenditures for the committee have been suspended for the past two biennia.

The Department of Education anticipates cost savings of staff time and resources for the elimination of certain reporting and data collection requirements from school districts, observation of Arbor Week, History of Statehood Week, and Women in History Week, mediation for resolutions between school district boards and public charter school applicants, and the abolishment of the District Best Business Practices Advisory Committee.

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 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.

The Oregon School Boards Association states that the elimination of certain reporting requirements will provide a cost savings to school districts, the exact amount of which will vary by district depending on the staff time or resources.