

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: HB 4175 - B**Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2012 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Prepared by: Matt Stayner
Reviewed by: Laurie Byerly
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Measure Description:

Permits certain counties to use federal forest reserve moneys in county road funds for law enforcement purposes related to roads.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Counties

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Please 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 does not appear to have a direct fiscal impact to counties; however it does create exemptions to statute for financing certain county operations. Existing law allows for two counties (Lane and Douglas) to set aside the statute limiting the uses of monies in the road fund for the purpose of patrolling the roads by law enforcement. This measure expands that ability to seven counties: Coos, Curry, Douglas, Josephine, Klamath, Lane, and Linn. The measure goes on to apply these provisions to any year before, on, or after the effective date of the bill and removes the provisions of the existing law applying to Lane and Douglas Counties limiting them to monies received on or before 9/27/2007. For counties with funding available, the bill simply creates a funding flexibility for these law enforcement activities. Allowing the provisions to apply to past years may allow counties to back-fill prior general fund expenditures for the patrolling activities from the road fund as well. The bill contains a sunset date of January 2, 2016 for these provisions.

The measure as amended also contains two provisions that allow inter-fund loans to be made from a county's road fund to any other county fund for the purpose of patrolling by law enforcement and requires a repayment of those loans within a specific time period. These provisions are not subject to the sunset provision applying to section 1 of the bill nor are they limited to the five counties listed above. This mechanism would be available to all of Oregon counties upon passage of the bill and loan and repayment requirements would only apply to the five listed counties after January 2, 2016.

There is not readily available information to determine a fiscal impact, if any, from those provisions.