

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: HB 3086 - A**Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2013 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official***

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Measure Description:

Provides that private entity that proposes action that affects core area habitat of sage grouse shall give State Department of Fish and Wildlife certain report and that the Department shall evaluate such reports within 30 days.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Indeterminate (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:

Although the bill permits, rather than obligates, persons to file a report from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) regarding the impact of proposed action to core area habitat of sage grouse; the Legislative Fiscal Office's protocol is to issue an explanatory fiscal impact statement providing an analysis of the expenditures, revenues, staffing, and organizational effects of implementing the full provisions of the bill. The fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate because the programmatic and budgetary scope of the reporting process and affected permits, or licenses is undefined.

Total number of applicable permits, licenses authorization or other form of permission from state agencies is not clear at this time. It is also unknown how this additional report may affect the permit, license, authorization or other form of permission processes and workflows by state agencies.

Unmeasured variables will need to be estimated for costing ODFW's evaluation of submitted reports and these may be influenced by size of project, location, and type of proposed activity. Additionally, the language describing the report and its contents as well as a definition of "core habitat", "quality or quantity of sage grouse habitat" and "net benefit" may affect the resources needed by ODFW to evaluate submitted reports within the 30 days limit established in the bill.

A revenue source has not been identified for funding ODFW expenditures related to evaluating submitted sage grouse habitat reports. In addition, the bill allows for a project proponent to request a contested case hearing before the State Fish and Wildlife Commission which has an undetermined fiscal affect to ODFW resources.

The Legislative Fiscal Office believes this measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Committee for consideration of this measure's budgetary impact.