

Analysis
State Library
Reorganization Report

Analyst: John Borden

Request: Acknowledge receipt of a report on the reorganization of the State Library.

Recommendation: Acknowledge receipt of the report.

Analysis: The Legislature in 2013 approved the following budget note in HB 5022:

The State Library and the Department of Administrative Services are directed to submit to the Legislature in February of 2014 a detailed strategic business plan for the reorganization of the State Library. The two agencies are directed to report to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means throughout the interim on the reorganization planning efforts.

Additionally, the State Library is directed to hold vacant any current or future vacated or unfilled positions until the Legislature in 2014 approves a reorganization plan for the agency.

In 2013, the Governor's budget proposed to "transition and reform" state government beginning with the State Library (OSL) and recommended to the Legislature that the agency be only given a one year budget. The Legislature adopted the Governor's recommendation after its frustration with the lack of progress on the implementation of recommendations from a similar legislatively directed effort the prior biennium.¹

The Legislature appropriated \$1,702,192 General Fund to the Emergency Board for the agency's second year of funding with its release contingent on a successful reorganization, in the form of a strategic business plan, being submitted by OSL and the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and approved by the Legislature in 2014.

The report submitted by the OSL and DAS and joined by the Secretary of State, the Judicial Department, and the Oregon Historical Society (OHS), broadly discusses an implementation plan and the concept of an integrated online reference system, but provides few, if any, details about what such a plan includes.

Since a detailed strategic business plan was not able to be finalized as requested, the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means have directed that a legislative workgroup, to include stakeholder participation, be formed to continue the reorganization effort and produce draft legislation for introduction during the legislative session in 2015.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends acknowledging receipt of the report.

¹ Also see SB 5521 (2011): The Governor's Office, Secretary of State, and the Chief Justice were requested to convene a workgroup to develop options and make recommendations on the consolidation and improvement of library and archives services. A joint report was submitted to the February 2012 legislative session.