

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 4143 - A

Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2014 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official***

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Measure Description:

Authorizes court, as part of settlement or judgment in class action, to approve process for payment of damages, dedicates unpaid damages in class action settlements to the Legal Aid Supplementary Account.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Justice, Judicial Department

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 authorizes the court to order unclaimed damages from class action settlements to be deposited in the Legal Aid Supplementary Account established by the measure. The interest earned in the account is to be distributed to the Oregon State Bar for the purpose of funding the Legal Services Program, which provides legal services to the poor. Currently, unclaimed damages are returned to the defendant. Data on unclaimed damages from class action settlements is unavailable.

There is no fiscal impact to the Judicial Department or Department of Justice as a result of this measure.