

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION****Measure: SB 279**Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session  
Legislative Fiscal Office***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed  
Versions are Considered Official***

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**Measure Description:**

Designates Oregon Medical Board as semi-independent state agency.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Oregon Medical Board, Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO)

**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:**

Senate Bill 279 grants the Oregon Medical Board the status of a semi-independent state agency, moving the agency outside the state's executive and legislative appropriations process making the agency entirely responsible for its own operations and expenses, including determining its own personnel policies, establishing its own budget, and setting its own fees, while exercising the power of the state through their licensing and enforcement efforts. The bill authorizes the Oregon Medical Board to take action before the July 1, 2015 operative date. The bill contains an emergency clause, and is effective on passage.

**Oregon Medical Board**

The fiscal impact of this bill on the Oregon Medical Board is indeterminate. Currently, as a state agency, the Board remits approximately \$198,715 in State Government Services Charges to the Department of Administrative Services for services including human resources, asset management, accounting, and information services. At this time, it is unclear whether there would be savings, no net changes, or an increase in costs as the Board seeks outside vendors to provide the services currently provided by the Department of Administrative Services and other state agencies.

**Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO)**

Passage of this bill is anticipated to have minimal fiscal impact on DAS and LFO. Granting the Oregon Medical Board semi-independent status will only redistribute, not reduce, workload for DAS and LFO. Although moving to semi-independent status would move the agency outside the appropriations process, this bill subjects the Oregon Medical Board to ORS 182-156 to 182.472 which requires semi-independent agencies to submit information regarding licensing, complaints, investigations, and consumer protection activities as well as audits, financial reviews, and budget information. LFO reviews and report on this information to the Legislative Assembly. In addition, semi-independent agencies are subject to certain state government requirements such as adopting contract and purchasing policies that must be submitted to DAS for review and approval.