

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2423

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:

Provides that inmates convicted of certain crimes are not eligible for earned time reduction in prison sentence.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Corrections

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Agency – Fund Type	2015-2017 Biennium	2017-2019 Biennium
Department of Corrections – General Fund		
Prison Cost	\$52,711	\$52,711
Total Cost	\$52,711	\$52,711

This measure is anticipated to have a minimal fiscal impact to state agencies and does not require a referral to the Joint Ways and Means Committee. While this measure does not require an appropriation at this time, the cumulative effect of measures with a prison population impact may require further analysis and adjustment to state agency appropriations. The Legislative Fiscal Office provides in the table above and the narrative below the potential costs to state agencies in order to provide more context for the measure’s fiscal impact.

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 provides that inmates convicted of certain crimes are not eligible for earned time reduction in prison sentences and eliminates certain earned time reductions available for completion of education programs.

Currently, up to 60 days of earned time credit is applied for appropriate behavior, or upon completion of a qualified educational program. Based on the current law, the earned time credit is essentially provided twice, for appropriate behavior, and the educational program—for which appropriate behavior is required for participation.

The Department of Corrections (DOC) estimates that this measure would reduce the earned time credit for approximately 10% of the 250 inmates that complete a qualified educational program each year. This would affect approximately 50 inmates per biennium, resulting in an average increased length of stay of 45 days in a DOC facility at a marginal cost per day of \$23.41.

HB 3194 (2013) requires a 10-year estimate of the fiscal impact for measures with an effect on crimes and sentencing. Using the assumptions for educational program participation above, DOC anticipates the cost to remain flat in future biennia at \$52,711 General Fund for 2019-21, 2021-23, and 2013-25.