

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: SB 692 - 3**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:

Removes sunset on ability of Oregon Health Authority to approve dental pilot projects.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

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 692 with the – 3 amendment repeals the January 2, 2018 sunset on statutes permitting the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to approve pilot projects to encourage the development of innovative practices in oral health care delivery systems with a focus on providing care to populations that evidence-based studies have shown have the highest disease rates and the least access to dental care. The bill contains an emergency clause, and takes effect on passage.

In removing the sunset date, this bill makes permanent the Dental Pilot Project established by SB 743 (2011). This 2011 legislation permitted OHA to approve pilot dental projects subject to available funding. OHA received no permanent funding or position authority to carry out this work. During the 2014 Legislative Session, one-time funding of \$100,000 General Fund was appropriated to OHA to begin work on this project. In March 2014, the Dental Pilot Program Coordinator limited duration position was established. Between September 2014 and March 2015, the Dental Pilot Program Coordinator convened many stakeholders and consulted with other state pilot programs to develop Oregon's Dental Pilot Program. The pilot program includes application, review and approval, monitoring, and evaluation. The program will begin accepting pilot project applications April 1, 2015.

However, no funding for the program is included in the 2015-17 budget. Note that current statutes permit OHA to approve pilot dental projects subject to available funding. If OHA is to make this program operational, the agency would need to establish two permanent positions: One full-time Dental Pilot Program Coordinator to coordinate the development of request for proposals and administer contracts for dental pilot projects, and one part-time Research Analyst 3 to develop data collection standards and evaluation measures for dental pilot projects. OHA estimates the administrative cost for the program to be \$235,052 General Fund (1.13 FTE) for the 2015-17 biennium, and \$262,084 General Fund (1.50 FTE) for the 2017-19 biennium.

In addition, the bill requires providers of dental services in a dental pilot project approved by OHA to be eligible for reimbursement if the services are provided to a recipient of medical assistance. The reimbursement applies to all services provided on or after the effective date of this 2015 Act. The requirement that providers of dental services in a dental pilot project approved by OHA to be eligible for reimbursement if the services are provided to a recipient of medical assistance is repealed on January 2, 2025. The fiscal impact of this provision is indeterminate because OHA will not know what services would be included in the pilot projects that aren't currently covered under medical assistance. In addition, it is unclear whether OHA could obtain Federal matching funds under Medicaid for these

additional pilot project services. Because of federal law regarding statewide requirements, OHA would likely have to seek a waiver.

This bill requires budgetary action in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means to determine the specific amount of General Fund and position authorization.