

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 226 - A8

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:

Requires Department of Human Services to operate three regional crisis outreach and assessment teams to serve residents of Stabilization and Crisis Units.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS), Legislative Assembly, 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:

House Bill 226 with the – A8 amendment establishes the 17-member Task Force on Client and Staff Safety charged with recommending measures to improve the safety and success of Stabilization and Crisis Units in Oregon. The task force is required to submit a report to an interim committee by September 15, 2016. The task force sunsets on December 31, 2016. The bill contains an emergency clause, and takes effect on passage.

Department of Human Services (DHS)

The fiscal impact of this bill on DHS is indeterminate. The bill requires DHS to provide staff support to the task force, and reimburse the non-Legislative members of the task force for travel and other expenses incurred in their performance of task force duties out of funds appropriated to DHS for purposes of the task force. However, the bill does not appropriate additional funds to DHS, which would seem to suggest that expenses for reimbursement and staff support are intended to come from its Legislatively Approved Budget, which does not contemplate expenditures specifically for this purpose. The bill allows the task force to meet at times and places specified by the call of the chair or a majority of the voting members. The fiscal impact of this bill on DHS is indeterminate depending on the scope of work undertaken by the task force, as well as the number of meetings, and geographic location of task force members.

Legislative Assembly

Two members of the task force will be Legislative members who are entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. Although the 2015-17 Legislative Branch budget contains funds allocated for interim committee and task force, if the work required by this task force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2015-17 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

The fiscal impact of this bill to OHA is minimal. The bill requires OHA to appoint a representative to the task force. OHA anticipates reprioritizing duties and responsibilities of existing staff to allow participation on the task force.