Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Date:	6/16/2015

Measure Description:

Establishes Task Force on Reentry, Employment and Housing.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Corrections, Employment Department, Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Housing and Community Services Department, Legislative Administration Committee (LAC), Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, counties,

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 969 establishes the 15-member Task Force on Reentry, Employment and Housing charged with studying and recommending methods and actions that state and local government should adopt to assist no-longer-incarcerated persons with criminal convictions with housing and employment.

Legislative Administration Committee (LAC)

The bill requires LAC to provide staff support to the task force. Four 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 Housing and Community Services (OHCS)

The fiscal impact of this bill on OHCS is indeterminate. The bill requires OHCS to 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 OHCS for purposes of the task force. However, the bill does not appropriate additional funds to OHCS, which would seem to suggest that expenses for reimbursement and staff support are intended to come from its Legislatively Approved Budget. 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 OHCS 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.

<u>Department of Corrections (DOC), Employment Department, Higher Education Coordinating</u> Commission (HECC), Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (OCJC), counties

Passage of this bill is anticipated to have minimal impact on these agencies and counties. These entities expect to participate as members on the task force, and to play a role in furnishing the task force with existing available data, information, advice, and other support.