

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

**Measure: HB 2479**

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 Trustees of State Library to provide annual grants for public library services for youth, with emphasis on underserved youth.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Oregon State Library

**Summary of Expenditure Impact:**

See analysis below

**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 fiscal impact of the measure is dependent upon how the grant program is implemented. While the bill does not identify additional funds for the grant program, it does make changes to the Ready to Read program, including increasing the number of eligible youth by changing the age limit from 14 to 17, increasing the minimum grant amount to local libraries from \$1,000 to \$1,200, allowing funds to be used for out-of-school time programs, and requiring a focus on underserved youth. The Oregon State Library (OSL) states that implementation of the bill will result in only a minimal fiscal impact to the agency, assuming that the funding is limited to existing resources. If that is the case, there would be an estimated 18% decrease in grant funds per child served (\$0.94 to \$0.77). The OSL agency budget request includes a policy package to increase funding for the program to help reduce the impact of the proposed changes on the per child grant amount. Under the agency proposal, an investment of \$139,759 in 2015-17 is estimated to result in a per child grant amount reduction of \$0.09 (\$0.94 to \$0.85).

The Legislative Fiscal Office believes this bill should be referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.