

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: SB 331**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:

Directs Department of Corrections to determine last-known address of inmates in custody of department and submit information to Secretary of State.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Corrections, Secretary of State, Local Governments

Summary of Expenditure Impact: See Analysis

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 directs the Department of Corrections (DOC) to develop an electronic filing system to record specific information for each inmate, including: last-known address, race and ethnicity, whether inmate is over the age of 18, and a unique identifier. The measure requires DOC to submit the information to the Secretary of State by May 1 of the year in which the federal decennial census takes place. The next federal decennial census is scheduled to take place in 2020.

The measure requires the Secretary of State to utilize the information provided by DOC, including the last-known address for purposes of population counts, legislative redistricting, and to apportion county and municipal boundaries.

DOC notes that the current electronic data system used at intake, the Corrections Information System (CIS), already captures age, race, and ethnicity. DOC assumes there would be a minimal one-time cost to upgrade the CIS system to capture the additional data for the last-known address, and to provide each inmate a unique identifier. This one-time cost can be absorbed by existing staff and resources; however DOC states that, with the current backlog of Information Services projects, implementation may not occur until January 1, 2017.

DOC will have additional costs to gather this required data for inmates who began serving their sentences prior to the January 1, 2016 effective date and will remain in a prison facility through the 2020 federal census. The additional costs will depend on the timing and approach to implementation that DOC utilizes. Based on the Office of Economic Analysis', October 2014 population forecast, DOC anticipates a prison population of 14,674 on January 1, 2020. If DOC were to initiate gathering the required data through non-electronic methods, beginning July 1, 2015 in anticipation of the measure's effective date, that would leave approximately 5,309 inmates who would have gone through the intake process without providing a last-known address. DOC notes that the information provided for last-known address will not be verifiable.

There is a minimal fiscal impact to the Secretary of State (SOS) as a result of this measure.