

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 561 - A

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 the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to develop a plan for communication among local mental health authorities and local systems to improve notifications and information sharing when a death that is suspected to be a suicide involves an individual who is 24 years of age or younger. .

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Higher Education Coordinating Commission (public universities), school districts, 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:

House Bill 561 requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to develop a plan for communication among local mental health authorities and local systems to improve notifications and information sharing when a death that is suspected to be a suicide involves an individual who is 24 years of age or younger. The plan must address community suicide response and post-intervention efforts to address loss and potential contagion risk. In developing and implementing the plan, OHA must include public school districts, public universities, private post-secondary institutions of education, and any facility that provides services or resources to runaway or homeless youth.

Counties (local mental health authorities)

The fiscal impact of this bill to counties is indeterminate. The bill requires counties in the area where the suicide occurred to inform the Oregon Health Authority of the activities implemented to support local entities and individuals affected by the suicide and to prevent the risk of contagion, within seven days after the death (Note: the bill specifies seven days after the death, not seven days after the report or knowledge of the death). OHA is authorized to establish the manner and format for the reporting of this information. Affected counties would need to work with community partners to identify community responses, and collate the information for reporting to OHA. The cost of collaborating with community partners and reporting is indeterminate depending on the manner and content of reporting.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

The Oregon Health Authority anticipates minimal fiscal impact with passage of this bill. OHA reports that the requirements specified by this bill align with the agency's efforts and practices.

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (public universities) and school districts

The bill requires OHA to include public school districts, public universities, private post-secondary institutions of education, and any facility that provides services or resources to runaway or homeless youth in developing and implementing the plan to address community suicide response and post-intervention efforts to address loss and potential contagion risk. This fiscal assumes these entities will use existing staff and resources to provide OHA with input.