FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

Measure: HB 3354

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Measure Description:

Establishes Task Force on Innovative Housing Strategies for Veterans.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS), Legislative Assembly

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2015-17 Biennium	2017-19 Biennium
Personal Services	\$29,042	\$0
Reimbursements	34,920	0
Facilitator	30,000	0
Report Preparation & Production	3,000	0
Meeting Costs	6,000	0
Total General Fund	\$102,962	\$0
Positions	1	0
FTE	0.25	0.00

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 3354 establishes the 11-member Task Force on Innovative Housing Strategies for Veterans charged with studying and making findings regarding innovative housing strategies to provide housing for homeless and low income veterans and veteran's families in Oregon. The task force is required to submit a report to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2016. The task force sunsets on December 1, 2016. The bill contains an emergency clause, and is effective on passage.

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA)

Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS)

ODVA and OHCS estimate the fiscal impact of this bill to be \$102,962 and 0.25 FTE for the 2015-17 biennium.

The bill requires ODVA and OHCS to jointly provide staff support to the task force, and reimburse the nine 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 ODVA and OHCS for purposes of the task force. However, the bill does not appropriate additional funds to either agency.

In addition to administrative support and reimbursement expenses, the bill requires the task force to investigate strategies for establishing housing purchasing authority to acquire housing for the purpose of

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providing housing options for veterans; and purchasing by the state of vacant housing developments during times of recession or other economic downturn for the purpose of providing housing options for veterans. For each of the strategy examined to be recommended, the task force must present a viable plan for implementation, including designation of the state agency or entity that will be responsible for administration of the strategy, identification of barriers and possible outcomes, the amount and nature of available and required financial resources, standards for veteran eligibility and any other factor or consideration that is relevant to evaluating the feasibility and appropriateness of the strategy. Because of these multifaceted deliverables, the fiscal impact includes pricing for report preparation and production, a contracted facilitator and part-time administrative support, as well as meeting costs, and projected reimbursement expenses.

Legislative Assembly

Two of the task force members are legislators who are entitled to per diem and reimbursement of expenses. 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.

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