

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3532

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:

Establishes task force to study how to provide benefits for disabled veterans through preferred worker program that is modeled on Reemployment Assistance Program and to make recommendations for legislation regarding implementation and potential funding sources for preferred worker program for disabled veterans.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), Legislative Assembly, Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), Employment Department, Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI)

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 3532 the eleven-member Task Force on the Preferred Worker Program for Disabled Veterans charged with collecting and synthesizing information about creating a program for disabled veterans modeled after the preferred worker program, and making recommendations for funding the program, as well as legislation regarding the establishment of the program. The bill requires the task force to submit a report to an interim Legislative committee by September 16, 2016. The task force sunsets on December 31, 2016. The bill contains an emergency clause, and takes effect on passage.

Legislative Assembly

Two 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.

Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS)

The bill requires DCBS to 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 DCBS for purposes of the task force. However, the bill does not appropriate additional funds to DCBS, which would seem to suggest that expenses for reimbursement and staff support are intended to come from its Legislatively Approved Budget, which does not contemplate expenditures specifically for this purpose. 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 DCBS can absorb, the agency may need additional funding and position authority.

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, Employment Department, Bureau of Labor and Industries

The fiscal impact of this bill to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, the Employment Department, and the Bureau of Labor and Industries is minimal. This fiscal assumes that if requested by the task force, these agencies will use existing staff and resources to provide the task force with existing available data, information, advice, and other support.