

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2571 – B

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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Date: 6-3-2015

Measure Description:

Requires law enforcement agency to establish policies and procedures for retaining recordings from cameras worn upon police officer's person to record officer's interactions with members of public.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Cities, Counties, Oregon State Police (OSP), Department of Corrections, Department of Justice, District Attorneys and their Deputies, Judicial Department, Public Defense Services Commission

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 requires law enforcement agencies to establish policies and procedures for retaining recordings from cameras worn by police officers to record interactions with members of the public. The measure would require all persons in body camera footage to have their faced blurred if that footage is released in a public records request.

The fiscal impact to the Oregon State Police (OSP) is indeterminate. While the agency is currently establishing processes and procedures for the use of body cameras, OSP notes that it currently takes approximately three hours to process one hour of video footage for release. Depending on the number of incidents, hours of footage, and public records requests, OSP may need to return to the Legislature for additional resources.

The fiscal impact to the Public Defense Services Commission (PDSC) is indeterminate. PDSC notes that the measure is silent on the possibility that a fee may be charged by the district attorney for providing access to footage through the discovery process. Typically charges for discovery for video and audio recordings range from \$10 to \$30 and these fees are set by the county commissioners. As an example of the potential costs to PDSC, there were 164,316 misdemeanor and felony cases in 2012-2013. If there was a single video for each case, with a \$10 fee the costs to PDSC would total approximately \$1.6 million General Fund per biennium.

There is a minimal fiscal impact to the Judicial Department, District Attorneys and their Deputies, and the Department of Corrections as a result of this measure. There is no fiscal impact as a result of this measure to the Department of Justice.