

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION Measure: SB 692 – A <CORRECTED>

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

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

Prepared by: Kim To
Reviewed by: Linda Ames
Date: 6/15/2015

Measure Description:

Removes sunset on ability of Oregon Health Authority to approve dental pilot projects.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

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:

**<CORRECTED TO CLARIFY THAT
SB 692 DOES NOT EXTEND SUNSET DATE OF DENTAL PILOT PROJECT>**

Senate Bill 692 requires providers of dental services in a dental pilot project approved by OHA to be eligible for reimbursement if the services are provided to a recipient of medical assistance. The reimbursement applies to all services provided on or after the effective date of this 2015 Act. The requirement that providers of dental services in a dental pilot project approved by OHA to be eligible for reimbursement if the services are provided to a recipient of medical assistance is repealed on January 2, 2025.

The fiscal impact of this provision is indeterminate because currently there is no funding for the Dental Pilot Project* in the 2015-17 budget, and OHA will not know what services would be included in the pilot projects that aren't currently covered under medical assistance. In addition, it is unclear whether OHA could obtain Federal matching funds under Medicaid for these additional pilot project services. Because of federal law regarding statewide requirements, OHA would likely have to seek a waiver.

*SB 738 (2011) established the Dental Pilot Project, permitting OHA to approve pilot dental projects that encourage the development of innovative practices in oral health care delivery systems with a focus on providing care to populations that evidence-based studies have shown have the highest disease rates and the least access to dental care, subject to available funding. OHA received no permanent funding or position authority to carry out this work. During the 2014 Legislative Session, one-time funding of \$100,000 General Fund was appropriated to OHA to begin work on this project. In March 2014, the Dental Pilot Program Coordinator limited duration position was established. Between September 2014 and March 2015, the Dental Pilot Program Coordinator convened many stakeholders and consulted with other state pilot programs to develop a process for submitting pilot projects. This process includes standards for application, review and approval, monitoring, and evaluation of projects. The program began accepting pilot project applications April 1, 2015. However, no funding for the program is included in the 2015-17 budget. Note that current statutes permit OHA to approve pilot dental projects subject to available funding, and the program is set to sunset on January 2, 2018. If OHA is to make this program operational, the agency would need additional staffing resources to continue reviewing applications, as well as to monitor and evaluate approved projects.