

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 1571 - A6

78th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2016 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Directs Department of State Police to adopt rules concerning prioritization of testing untested sexual assault forensic evidence kits.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon State Police (OSP), Cities, Counties, Legislative Administration Committee (LAC), Legislative Assembly

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Agency -- Fund Type	2015-2017 Biennium	2017-2019 Biennium
Oregon State Police -- General Fund		
Personal Services	\$856,659	\$1,769,059
Services and Supplies	\$350,341	\$748,877
Capital Outlay	\$293,000	\$146,500
Total Costs	\$1,500,000	\$2,664,436

Positions/FTE	9 / 4.50	9 / 9.00
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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 directs the Oregon State Police (OSP) to adopt rules concerning the testing of untested sexual assault forensic evidence kits and requires testing of all known or identified untested kits. OSP is directed to report to the Legislature on the progress it's making on the backlog of untested kits and its progress in entering the results into the Combined DNA Index System. As of 2015, OSP counted 5,652 untested kits by law enforcement in Oregon. The measure requires all law enforcement agencies to develop policies and procedures concerning sexual assault forensic evidence kits.

The measure, as amended by the -A6 provides \$1.5 million General Fund to OSP's Forensic Services Division to process sexual assault forensic evidence kits. With this General Fund allotment, OSP anticipates hiring nine new permanent full-time positions (4.50 FTE) in the 2015-17 biennium, including seven Forensic Scientists, one Forensic Support Specialist, and a Supervisor for the DNA section. Additional costs include the purchase of necessary technical equipment and supplies. The cost for the positions is anticipated to be \$2,664,436 General Fund in 2017-19. OSP notes that the addition of these nine positions is only expected to keep pace with the current demand for testing until early 2018 and that additional resources may be needed in 2017-19 to maintain the goal of a 30-day turnaround time for testing.

The measure establishes the Task Force on Testing of Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Kits, consisting of 16 members, tasked with examining all aspects of the process of sexual assault evidence kits, and reporting to the Legislative Assembly no later than December 1, 2018. Staff support for the task force is provided by Committee Services of the Legislature. Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for

actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties.

The fiscal impact of this bill on Legislative Administration Committee is minimal. Although the 2015-17 Legislative Branch budget contains funds allocated for interim committees and task forces, 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.

This fiscal impact assumes that participation with the task force by any other state agencies will have minimal impact and will be absorbable within the existing parameters of the agencies' budgets.