

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Measure: HB 4032

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

Prepared by: Tim Walker
Reviewed by: Michelle Deister
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Measure Description:

Requires Commissioner of Bureau of Labor and Industries to make available, in electronic format, bureau publications free of charge to Oregon employers.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

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: This bill would require the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to provide, electronically, free of charge, BOLI's employer publications, including employer handbooks and consolidated posters, in an electronic format.

The Technical Assistance for Employers program is largely funded with Other Funds revenue derived from fee-for-service training seminars, handbook sales, and consolidated poster sales. Employer posters required by law are already provided -- individually-- as PDFs on BOLI's website. The bill would not prevent BOLI from selling handbooks and consolidated posters, as is their current practice, only that the publications are provided, free of charge, electronically on their website. BOLI reports that were the bill to pass, the agency would be unable to anticipate document sales income, and would cease all sales of handbooks and consolidated posters so as to concentrate staff efforts on fee-for-service seminars and trainings. Such a move would result in a reported revenue shortfall in 2015-17 of \$78,000 Other Funds and \$412,000 Other Funds in 2017-19. BOLI believes this will result in 2 fewer positions (2.00 FTE) in 2017-19.

The Legislative Fiscal Office notes that it is reasonable to anticipate some level of decreasing revenue for the program, but would not assume that passage alone results in the revenue declines reported by BOLI. A decision by BOLI to cease sales altogether could contribute to a higher fiscal impact associated with this bill. The fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate. Some level of adjustment to position authority and limitation may need to be made and for this reason the bill should be referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for further analysis.