

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: SB 525 - 2

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

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Date: 4/10/2017

Measure Description:

Extends sunset on provision authorizing Department of Human Services to appear as party in juvenile court proceeding without appearance of Attorney General.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Justice (DOJ), Oregon Judicial Department (OJD), Public Defense Services Commission (PDSC), Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service

Analysis:

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the Senate Committee on Judiciary to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Senate Bill 525 with the - 2 amendment:

1. Extends the sunset on provision authorizing Department of Human Services (DHS) to appear as a party in juvenile court proceeding without appearance of Attorney General from June 30, 2018 to June 30, 2020.
2. Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Department of Justice (DOJ), in consultation with the Oregon District Attorneys Association, to collaborate to ensure that DHS child welfare programs have full access to DOJ support throughout juvenile dependency proceedings.
3. Requires DOJ and DHS to co-prepare and co-present to the legislature, by September 1, 2017, a report regarding legal representation in juvenile dependency proceedings in all counties. This report must include a plan with a timeline for implementing, by January 1, 2019, full access to DOJ support throughout juvenile dependency proceedings, with consideration for county-based need, readiness, regional impact and fiscal effect.
4. Requires the Public Defense Services Commission (PDSC) to develop and maintain a Parent-Child Representation Program for the delivery of legal representation services to parents and children involved in the dependency system. This program must be implemented statewide by January 1, 2022.
5. Directs PDSC to prepare and submit an annual report that includes an implementation plan and progress reports to the legislature. The first report must be submitted by September 15, 2017, and annually through September 15, 2021.
6. Specifies that the Oregon Volunteers Commission for Voluntary Action and Service must contract with at least four attorneys with expertise in child welfare and juvenile dependency advocacy to provide legal consultation, direct representation, and training to Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Volunteer Programs statewide.
7. Directs the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) to convene a continuous quality assurance advisory committee to collect and report on quality assurance measures for the juvenile dependency proceedings and child welfare matters. OJD is required to report annually to the legislature.

This bill will have a fiscal impact on the Department of Human Services, the Department of Justice, the Oregon Judicial Department, the Public Defense Services Commission and the Oregon Volunteers Commission. The amount of this impact is still being determined. A more complete fiscal analysis on the bill will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Further Analysis Required