

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Measure: SB 503 - 2

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

Prepared by: John Terpening
Reviewed by: Steve Bender
Date: 4-14-2017

Measure Description:

Directs Judicial Department to establish uniform visitor policies.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Judicial Department

Analysis:

The measure directs the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) to adopt rules to establish uniform visitor policies, including standards, protocols and procedures to be used by visitors in the performance of their duties. The rules must establish minimum qualifications for visitors appointed by the court, including professional licensure or certifications necessary and completion of mandatory training for certain visitors relating to guardianships, conservatorships, and working with vulnerable adults.

In order to undertake the formulation and adoption of these rules, the Judicial Department anticipates establishing a work group to look at statewide uniform visitor policies. This process is anticipated to take approximately one year. Once rules are in place, the Department assumes that existing staff will be able to absorb the additional workload anticipated regarding review of visitor qualifications and any review and processing of visitor payments that would need to be created. The Department notes that funds will likely be needed to cover indigent protected persons and respondents that cannot pay for a court visitor, estimated at about \$97,000 per year.

OJD states that a half-time analyst position would be required to provide central support and program oversight of the statewide visitor policy and provide education to judges and court staff. The estimated cost of this position is \$98,029 General Fund.

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the House Judiciary Committee to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. A more complete fiscal analysis of the measure will be completed as the bill is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Further Analysis Required