

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Measure: HCR 24 - A

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

Prepared by: Meg Bushman-Reinhold
Reviewed by: Ken Rocco
Date: 6/1/2017

Measure Description:

Requires committees and subcommittees of Senate and House of Representatives, and joint committees and subcommittees of Legislative Assembly, to accept remote testimony given by remote videoconferencing link, following authorization by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Legislative Assembly

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

See analysis

Analysis:

This bill requires that legislative committee meetings allow for testimony via videoconferencing on any subject that is posted on the committee meeting agenda, as long as testimony via videoconference is authorized by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

This fiscal impact assumes that individuals testifying from remote locations for committee hearings held in the Capitol would have their own videoconferencing equipment and sufficient bandwidth. This fiscal impact does not assume any costs for videoconferencing associated with committee hearings held outside of the Capitol.

To acquire the necessary equipment for the 14 hearing rooms in the Capitol, Legislative Administration estimates a one-time cost of \$433,700 or about \$31,000 per hearing room. It is unclear how frequently legislative committees would receive requests to testify via videoconference. Assuming such requests would be infrequent, the cost could be reduced by limiting the number of hearing rooms equipped for videoconferencing.

In addition to the one-time costs for equipment, there would be ongoing costs for software, maintenance and IT staff. Such costs are indeterminate at this time.