

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 1029

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

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

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Measure Description:

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Health Authority for Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program and Women, Infants and Children Farm Direct Nutrition Program.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

Analysis:

Senate Bill 1029 appropriates an unspecified amount of General Fund to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for the 2017-19 biennium to provide vouchers to low-income seniors and families for the purchase of fresh, unprocessed, locally-grown fruits, vegetables and herbs from farmers' markets and roadside stands under the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program (SFDNP) and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Farm Direct Nutrition Program. The bill contains an emergency clause and is effective on passage.

Oregon's Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program, administered by Public Health, is funded primarily by a federal grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The program provides eligible seniors an additional source of nutritious food and education on selecting and preparing fresh produce. SFDNP recipients receive checks to spend directly with local farmers who grow fruits and vegetables. Currently, the federal program is projected to serve 29,000 WIC clients and 41,500 seniors in 2017.

OHA estimates that an additional \$300,000 General Fund would serve an additional 4,211 WIC clients and 6,977 seniors. Approximately 85% of these funds (\$251,667) would go directly to the eligible clients with the remaining amount (\$251,667) covering postage, printing and mailing costs. Staffing expenses are funded by the USDA grant, and would not be charged to this revenue source.

During the 2015-17 biennium, the Legislature appropriated \$100,000 for WIC Farmers' Market clients and \$200,000 for senior Farmers' Market clients. These funds were phased out and are currently not part of the 2017-19 budget request.

This bill requires budgetary action for the appropriation of General Fund.