

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office**Measure: SB 1018 - A*****Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official***Prepared by: Kim To
Reviewed by: Laurie Byerly, Doug Wilson
Date: 4/12/2017**Measure Description:**

Establishes Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Program within Department of Human Services.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS), Oregon Department of Education (ODE)

Analysis:

Senate Bill 1018 establishes the Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Program in the Department of Human Services (DHS). The bill takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2017 Legislative Session adjourns sine die. The bill requires DHS to:

- Convene The 12-member Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Committee to advise the Department on implementing and administering this program.
- Act as a bureau of information with respect to specified data and information regarding individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing for state agencies, local government, other public and private agencies that provide services to this population, as well as for individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing.
- Coordinate a statewide sign language interpreter referral service that may be used by governmental entities.
- Assist state agencies in making their programs available and accessible to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing.
- Make specified vocational rehabilitation services available to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing.
- Advocate for individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing in areas of early intervention, health care, emergency services, communication technologies, education, vocational training, employment, and public services including transportation.
- Develop a long-term plan for the provision of essential services to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing.
- Report to the Legislature and the Governor by September 15 of each even-numbered year.

Department of Human Services (DHS)

	2017-19 Biennium	2019-21 Biennium
General Fund		
Personal Services	461,653	672,226
Services and Supplies	117,495	152,166
Total General Fund	\$579,148	\$824,392
Positions	4	4
FTE	2.77	4.00

DHS calculates the fiscal impact of launching the Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Program as specified by the bill to the \$579,148 General Fund, 4 positions and 2.77 FTE for the 217-19 biennium. Program activities are not eligible for Medicaid match. The fiscal impact amount reflects the phase in of four positions to support existing staff to implement the Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Program:

- Research Analyst 4 (Starting October 1, 2017) to provide research and statistical analysis, as well as review and conduct studies related to: administration and operation of state agency programs intended for D/HH as required by the bill.
- Operations and Policy Analyst 2 (Starting October 1, 2017) to provide staff support to the advisory committee, as well as technical assistance, education, and outreach to state agencies regarding D/HH related issues as identified in the bill.
- Operations and Policy Analyst 1 (Starting October 1, 2017) to provide adaptive assistance technology scheduling and coordination services.
- Operations and Policy Analyst 2 (Starting April 1, 2018) to perform contract administration, billing oversight, technical assistance and adaptive assistance technology scheduling.

Oregon Department of Education (ODE)

This bill is anticipated to have minimal fiscal impact to ODE. The bill changes the advisory body for State Board of Education in matters related the use of sign language interpreters in public schools from the Oregon Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Services Program Advisory Committee to this newly established Oregon Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Committee.

This bill requires budgetary action for the allocation of General Fund resources and position establishment.