FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

Measure: SB 759 - A

Prepared by: Theresa McHugh

Reviewed by: Laurie Byerly, Doug Wilson, Paul Siebert

Date: April 18, 2017

Measure Description:

Specifies that amount in account established for higher education expenses is disregarded for purposes of determining account owner's financial eligibility to receive assistance or benefit authorized by law, to extent permitted under federal law.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Statewide

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate.

Analysis:

The measure specifies that, beginning January 1, 2018, account balances in an account that has been established for higher education expenses are not to be considered when determining an individual's eligibility for public benefits, to the extent permitted by federal law. The measure does not apply to means-tested state financial aid for higher education.

In general, it is likely that the measure has a minimal impact on state and local government agencies. However, there are means-tested services and programs in some agencies, including the Department of Human Services (DHS), that could be impacted to some degree. The amount of such an impact is indeterminate because there is no way to know how many potential clients will have such accounts, as well as whether the account balances would result in a change in eligibility for services.

Page 1 of 1 SB 759 - A