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

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Measure Description:

Creates limited landscape construction professional license.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Landscape Contractors Board [Semi-Independent Agency]

Analysis:

This bill creates a limited landscape professional license, which allows licensed individuals to operate as a landscape professional without meeting the experience and education requirements for a traditional license, as long as the dollar amount for the work performed by the individual does not exceed \$8,000 per job in a 12-month period. This financial limitation would have to be disclosed in project contracts and on licensee's business cards.

The Landscape Contractors Board (LCB) currently charges \$100 for an individual license for both new and renewal. Because the bill allows for the issuance of a license without education and experience requirements, LCB assumes the number of license applications and renewals would increase under this bill, resulting in an indeterminate increase in revenue.

To obtain and renew the current landscape professional license, a contractor may take an exam. LCB charges \$5 for each exam. If fewer individuals take the exams because the individual can get the license created by this bill without it, LCB would see reduced revenue. Also, the lack of an education requirement and along the contract requirements may result in increased claims against licensees, which may increase costs for LCB to resolve complaints.

Finally, LCB partners with a trade association and community colleges to provide a class for preparation for the practical skills test that is currently required for a license. A minimum number of students is necessary to support the costs of the class. If attendance in those classes is reduced because fewer people need the class to get a license, LCB would have to seek a statutory change or pursue other options to provide the class.

The fiscal impact of this measure on the Landscape Construction Contractors Board is indeterminate for both potential revenue and potential expenditures.

Note that the Landscape Construction Contractors Board is a semi-independent state agency subject to ORS 182.456 to 182.472. The agency's budget is not subject to Executive Branch review, or approval or modification by the Legislative Assembly.