

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

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

**Measure: HB 3364 - A**

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

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Date: 4/20/2017

**Measure Description:**

Permits payment of up to \$3,000 in emergency assistance over consecutive 12-month period on behalf of child whose parent is victim of domestic violence or at risk for domestic violence.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Department of Human Services (DHS)

**Analysis:**

House Bill 3364 changes provisions related to temporary assistance for needy families for families who are victims of domestic violence to require the Department of Human Services (DHS) to maintain emergency assistance eligibility and payment limits for victims of domestic violence at no less than \$3,000 for a consecutive six-month period.

The Department of Human Services calculates the cost of raising this rate to \$3,000 to comply with the provisions of the bill of could reach approximately \$21,935,787 General Fund for the 2017-19 biennium, and \$26,218,410 General Fund for the 2019-21 biennium. DHS reports that currently an individual can get assistance of up to \$1,200 every 90 days, or \$2,400 in a 6-month period. These projections assume an October 2017 implementation date, and reflects the incremental increase in cost per case based on the current average forecasted caseload.

Note that the agency’s cost projections are based on the assumption that 100% of the monthly average caseload (1,217 clients) will obtain financial assistance from the program; this level of participation is significantly higher than under the current program where only 23% of the caseload is receiving emergency assistance payments. The drop in purchasing power of \$1,200 over time has been cited as one reason for waning participation, which has been declining in recent biennia. Although at this time, it is difficult to predict the level of participation with passage of this bill, the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) believes these projections require further review and may warrant revision when the bill is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

This bill requires budgetary discussion regarding the potential demand on General Fund resources.