

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Measure: HB 2347 - A

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

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Measure Description:

Extends for two years Department of Human Services' authority to prescribe employability assessment and orientation process for job opportunity and basic skills program and limit number of participants and activities of participants in program; to require single parent of child under two years of age to participate in job opportunity and basic skills program; to deny request of recipient in temporary assistance for needy families program to enroll in educational institution as allowable work act

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS)

Analysis:

House Bill 2347 authorizes DHS, for the 2017-19 biennium, to continue TANF program restrictions for the 2017-19 biennium that have been in place since the 2009-11 biennium. Without this legislation, those changes would expire June 30, 2017 and require the agency to spend more money on certain TANF program components.

DHS anticipates this bill will allow the program to realize approximately \$22.2 million General Fund in cost avoidance. Since the approval of these TANF program suspensions changes has been ongoing for multiple biennia, the associated 2017-19 savings have already been assumed in the DHS budget. If this bill does not pass, DHS will need an additional \$22.2 million in General Fund to cover the additional cost of restored program enhancements.

The bil requires DHS to use any savings in Federal Funds, Other Funds, or General Funds moneys that result from TANF policy changes made by the department or that result from reductions in the number of families enrolled in TANF to increase the value of the grants provided to families in participating in TANF. The fiscal impact of this requirement is indeterminant because it is unknown whether any savings will be realized from the conditions outlined by the bill. As noted above, TANF program suspensions have been ongoing for multiple biennia due to lack of resources. The measure does not provide a methodology, or baseline from which, to measure savings resulting from TANF policy changes made by the department or that result from reductions in the number of families enrolled in TANF.