FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2018 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Date:	2/7/2018

Measure Description:

Establishes Task Force on Addressing Racial Disparities in Home Ownership.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO), Legislative Assembly

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

HB 4010 establishes the 11-member Task Force on Addressing Racial Disparities in Home Ownership charged with making recommendations for changes in lending practices to eliminate discrimination and remove barriers to home ownership for people of color in Oregon. The bill requires the task force to report to the Legislature by September 15, 2019. The task force sunsets December 31, 2019.

Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO)

The bill requires LPRO to provide staff support to the task force. The 2017-19 Legislative Branch budget should contain funds allocated for LPRO support of interim committees and task forces.

However, note that the bill requires the task force to compile data concerning levels of home ownership among people of color in this state, and to investigate practices and procedures for approving mortgage loans. Furthermore, the bill authorizes the task force to consult experts; form subcommittees or advisory committees; conduct field investigations, hearings and other meetings; receive testimony in any form or format; request or require production of documents and other evidence. If any of these activities requires LPRO to contract with subject matter experts or engage a mediator or other third-party facilitators, LPRO may need additional resources to fund these activities.

Legislative Assembly

The bill specifies that non-legislative members of the task force serve as volunteers and are not entitled to compensation and reimbursement. However, four members of the task force will be legislative members who are entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. The estimated per diem and travel reimbursement cost for the four legislative members is \$804 per day. This amount includes the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax, and assumes per diem remains at \$142 per day, and the average mileage of 90 miles at the current rate of \$0.535 per mile. Although the 2017-19 Legislative Assembly budget contains funds allocated for interim committee and task force, if the work required by this task force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2017-19 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required. The task force would not incur additional costs to the Legislative Assembly budget if the meetings are held at the Capitol building during Legislative Session, Task force or Legislative Days.