

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 4067 - 1

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

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

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Measure Description:

Expands definition of term "child with a disability" for purposes of special education to include children who have developmental delays and who are under 10 years of age.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Education (ODE), School Districts

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

The fiscal impact of this measure is indeterminate at this time because the number of affected students is not available from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). The legislation would add developmental delays to the list of conditions eligible for special education services if the child is under 10 years-old. Currently, there are a number of developmentally delayed children in the Early Childhood Special Education program; when this group of children reach Kindergarten they are no longer eligible for services as developmentally delayed, but are often reassessed and designated eligible under another category. With the data currently available, ODE is unable to provide reliable estimates of what the net increase of eligible students would be under this bill.

Special education funding at the state level comes from two sources: (1) the federal government provides funding through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to states which are passed on to school districts; (2) the State School Fund provides additional weight to school districts for each of these students in the school distribution formula (ADMw). The federal revenue amount is fixed for any given year. It is possible that Oregon may earn additional resources at the cost of other states over time if the increase in the affected student population is large enough. The increase in the number of students is unlikely to increase the State School Fund, but the distribution between districts may change. Cost increases to districts will vary based on the number of these students in each district.

At the state level, the fiscal impact of this bill is minimal to ODE and absorbable within exiting budgetary parameters. ODE staff will develop rules and policies as well as provide technical assistance to school districts. Even if an increase in school spending occurs, due to a greater number of students eligible for services at the school district level, ODE accounting costs will not increase in the short term and can be adjusted during the next budget cycle if needed.