

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Measure: SB 1534 - A

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

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Measure Description:

Requires Department of Human Services to establish minimum training standards for home care workers and personal support workers and to provide training.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS)

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

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

Analysis:

SB 1534 directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish, by rule, minimum training standards for approximately 30,000 home care and personal support workers, including procedures for testing these workers on their mastery of skills and knowledge to be acquired through the training. The bill also requires DHS to provide the required training. This training must be culturally appropriate for workers of all language abilities, and geographically accessible to workers. DHS must consult with the Developmental Disabilities and Mental Health Committee, unions representing home care and personal support workers, and other stake holders in establishing training standards and in developing the training. The bill directs the Home Care Commission and DHS to maximize all federal funding to pay for the training. The bill specifies that personal support workers may not be considered to be employees of a support services brokerage.

At this time, DHS is unable to quantify the full fiscal impact of this bill. If this bill becomes law, DHS would use existing staff and resources to work with Developmental Disabilities and Mental Health Committee, unions representing home care and personal support workers, and other stake holders to:

- Establish minimum training standards; and
- Research options for curriculum development, training technologies and potential procurements for language translation; as well as training delivery, tracking, and testing of performance.

Training is often a subject in collective bargaining, and until training standards are established through rule creation, and the options for training delivery, tracking, and testing of performance are explored and agreed upon among stakeholders, DHS cannot quantify the cost of providing culturally appropriate and geographically accessible training for home care and personal support workers as required by this bill.

The bill sets January 1, 2020, as the date for when the new training requirements and offerings must be in place, with associated planning and rulemaking to be completed prior to that date. Depending on planning progress, the Department may have enough information for any needed budget adjustments to be considered during development of the 2019-21 legislatively adopted budget.