

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 485 <REVISED>

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

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

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Measure Description:

Directs Oregon Health Authority to collaborate with certain schools and facilities when developing plan for communication following suspected suicide.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Department of Education (ODE), School Districts, Community Colleges, Public Universities

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

<Revised to include additional information from OHA.>

Analysis:

SB 485 requires the Oregon Health Authority to serve as a community resource and to collaborate with public school districts, public universities, private post-secondary educational institutions, and facilities that provide services or resources to runaway or homeless youth in developing and implementing a plan for communication among local mental health authorities and local systems to improve notifications and information-sharing following a suspected youth suicide to prevent and respond to suicide clusters and contagion.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

OHA anticipates the fiscal impact of this bill to be minimal. The agency’s 2019-21 requested budget includes policy option package #402 to expand behavioral health services for children and youth in schools and for suicide intervention and prevention. Included in this package are staffing and resources that would enable OHA to absorb work required by this bill - coordinating and collaborating with public school districts, public universities, private post-secondary educational institutions, as well as local mental health authorities to fully develop and implement a communication plan statewide. The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) notes that the agency’s budget is currently undergoing consideration in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. At this time, it is uncertain if this policy option package will be approved. The agency’s decision to absorb costs could put upward cost pressure not only on the agency’s budget, but also the state’s General Fund. Such decisions could lead to agency requests from a future Legislature or Emergency Board for more General Fund through the rebalance process.

Department of Education (ODE), School Districts, Community Colleges, Public Universities

Passage of this bill is anticipated to have minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Education, school districts, community colleges, public universities. These entities will use existing resources to report relevant information to OHA within seven days of a suspected youth suicide, and to collaborate with OHA in developing and implementing a community communication plan to prevent and contain suicide clusters and contagion.