FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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:

Expands higher education tuition grants offered to qualified members of Oregon National Guard by permitting grant to be used for undergraduate degree program at qualifying private post-secondary institutions, Oregon Health Sciences University and for a certificate of completion from a community college.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Military Department (OMD), Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

Current law provides grants to eligible members of the National Guard to supplement state and federal financial aid for degree-seeking undergraduate students at public universities and community colleges. The program is in its first year of operation. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission administers the program using General Fund dollars appropriated for this purpose.

This bill expands the grant program to National Guard students at private educational institutions and at Oregon Health Sciences University, and to those seeking a certificate of completion at a community college, beginning with the 2020-21 school year. Based on information currently available, the 2019-21 budgeted amounts for grants under this program should be sufficient to cover the increased demand anticipated with passage of this bill. LFO cannot determine at this time whether the General Fund appropriation for grants under this program will be sufficient to meet the increased demand in future biennia.

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

The Higher Education Coordinating Commission can absorb an increase in workload associated with the increased participation in this grant program within its current budget.

Oregon Military Department, Oregon Department of Veteran's Affairs

There is no fiscal impact to the Oregon Military Department or the Oregon Department of Veteran's Affairs.