

HB 2212 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/4, 3/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates unstated amount of moneys from General Fund to Oregon Department of Administrative Services for purpose of providing grants to state agencies to help cover costs related to providing workplace accommodations for employees with disabilities. Authorizes Department to adopt rules for administering grants.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effort of work group to develop proposal
- Whether agencies will need experienced grant writers
- Desire for grant application process to be very simple

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Appropriates \$250,000 from General Fund to Department for grant program. Limits assistance to cover costs associated with providing accommodations to employees with physical disabilities. Limits grants to covering costs of providing accommodations that are between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Fiscal statement issued.

No revenue impact.

BACKGROUND:

Select members of the House Interim Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development participated in a work group to evaluate Oregon program's supporting employment opportunities for people with disabilities. The work group included staff from various state agencies and non-profit organizations as well as representatives of the National Conference of State Legislatures and the Council of State Government. House Bill 2212 is a product of that work group. The measure appropriates General Fund moneys to the Department of Administrative Services for a grant program to defray costs of executive branch agencies providing workplace accommodations to people with disabilities.