

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 293

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:

Establishes Indian Health Scholarship Program to provide free tuition and fees for qualifying Indian health profession students in exchange for student commitment to work at tribal service site after graduation.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis: The bill creates the Indian Health Scholarship Program for members of federally-recognized Indian tribes who enroll in health profession degree programs at Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU). In addition, the bill will require recipients to work as health professional at tribal service sites after completing programs. Preference will be given to Oregon federally-recognized tribal members. Recipients will also be required to practice at tribal service sites for at least the number of years they were enrolled in the health profession degree program. The bill has a blank General Fund appropriation.

OHSU anticipates the management of the program can be handled with current resources and any costs would be minimal. Since no level of funding for the grant program is identified in the bill and it is unknown how many eligible students would receive the scholarships, the fiscal impact of this measure is indeterminate. The Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) does not anticipate a fiscal impact due to the provisions of the bill. The General Fund in the bill is appropriated directly to OHSU; however, OHSU operates as a public corporation separate from the state. State support to OHSU is appropriated to HECC and HECC distributes the funding to OHSU in the form of a grant.