

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2247 - 3

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*Prepared by: Tim Walker
Reviewed by: Doug Wilson
Date: 03/11/2019**Measure Description:**

Directs Early Learning Division to develop, implement and administer Oregon Imagination Library Project to improve reading proficiency and high school graduation rates by providing enrolled children with age-appropriate book once each month.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Education (ODE), Education Service Districts (ESD), School Districts

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2019-21 Biennium	2021-23 Biennium
General Fund	\$1,098,704	\$3,322,346
Total Funds	\$1,098,704	\$3,322,346
Positions	1	1
FTE	0.75	1.00

Analysis: The bill establishes the Oregon Imagination Library project to improve the reading proficiency and high school graduation rates of enrolled children and to provide every enrolled child an age-appropriate book each month until the child reaches the age of five. The Early Learning Division (ELD) of the Oregon Department of Education will develop the project.

The bill allows ELD to enter into a partnership with a national book gifting foundation that contracts with school districts and with organizations that are tax exempt to provide free books to children from birth until 5 years old. The agency may assist participating school districts and nonprofit organizations in community outreach and technical assistance to recruit volunteers for implementation, enrollment of children into the project, and the solicitation of donations, gifts, and other funding to support the project. ELD may require a school district or organization participating in the project to provide a matching amount of at least half of funds required.

The -3 amendment allows the ELD to establish an advisory committee to advise ELD and make recommendations on how best to develop, implement, and administer the project. Directs the division to support the Oregon Imagination Library Project by entering into a partnership with the national book gifting foundation that has contracts with local Imagination Library program affiliates for the purpose of having the division pay 50% of the monthly contract cost.

Directs the division to assist local Imagination Library programs with the establishment of programs in communities or counties that are not serviced by a local Imagination Library program in recruiting volunteers for the implementation and administration of the programs, and in enrolling children into the programs.

ELD assumes that 50% of the cost of the books will be paid for by General Fund at \$1.05 average cost per child per book. ELS anticipates 30% of eligible children will enroll and will gradually increase over time.

School districts may be impacted if they choose to participate and are required to provide matching funds.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its budgetary impact on the State's General Fund.