

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 140 - 4

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 Emergency Department Boarding Pilot Project in Oregon Health Authority.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO), Legislative Assembly, Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Corrections (DOC), Oregon State Police (OSP)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2019-21 Biennium	2021-23 Biennium
General Fund		
Personal Services	198,067	198,067
Services and Supplies	39,470	39,470
Special Payments	3,012,463	3,012,463
Total Funds	\$3,250,000	\$3,250,000
Positions	1	1
FTE	1.00	1.00

Analysis:

SB 140 with the -4 amendment appropriates \$3,250,000 General Fund to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to administer and provide grants for the Emergency Department Boarding Pilot Project.

The measure establishes the Emergency Department Boarding Pilot Project within OHA to provide grants to hospitals to determine the effectiveness of strategies for providing immediate access to appropriate treatment for individuals experiencing behavioral health crises who are being held in an emergency room due to the lack of alternative treatment options.

In addition, the measure establishes the 20-member Task Force on Emergency Department Boarding to identify the root causes of patients experiencing behavioral health crises being held in hospitals and to propose solutions for community placements or services. The task force must report to the Legislature by February 1, 2020 with its initial recommendations and again by September 15, 2020 with its final recommendations. The task force sunsets on December 31, 2020.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

OHA estimates the fiscal impact of the measure to be \$3,250,000 General Fund and one position (1.00 FTE) per biennium. With passage of this measure, OHA anticipates expending \$3,012,463 for grants to hospitals. Personal services and related services and supplies reflect one Operations and Policy Analyst 3 position to oversee the pilot program.

Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO)

The measure requires LPRO to provide staff support to the task force. The 2019-21 Legislative Branch budget should contain funds allocated for LPRO support of interim committees and task forces.

Legislative Assembly

The measure specifies that non-legislative members of the task force serve as volunteers and are not entitled to compensation and reimbursement. However, two members of the task force will be legislative members who are entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. The estimated per diem and travel reimbursement cost for the two legislative members is \$420 per day. This amount includes the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax, and assumes per diem remains at \$149 per day, and the average mileage of 90 miles at the current rate of \$0.58 per mile. Although the 2019-21 Legislative Assembly budget contains funds allocated for interim committees and task forces, if the work required by this task force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2019-21 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required. The task force would not incur additional costs to the Legislative Assembly budget if the meetings are held at the Capitol building during Legislative Session, Task force, or Legislative Days.

Department of Human Services (DHS), the Department of Corrections (DOC), the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), Oregon State Police (OSP)

This measure is anticipated to have minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Human Services, the Department of Corrections, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, and the Oregon State Police. These agencies will use existing staff and resources to serve on the task force.

This measure requires budgetary action for the allocation of General Fund resources and position establishment for the Oregon Health Authority.