FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Requires Department of Human Services to award grants to refugee resettlement agencies to provide specified services to refugees.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS)

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		
Special Payments	4,500,000	0
Total Funds	\$4,500,000	\$0

Analysis:

HB 2508 appropriates \$4,500,000 General Fund to the Department of Human Services (DHS) to award grants to refugee resettlement agencies. These awards are intended to supplement funding received by the United States Department of State to provide specified services to assist refugees for up to 24months following their date of arrival in the United States The bill specifies that \$250,000 of the appropriation must be distributed to a culturally responsive employment service provider to be selected by DHS.

Under current practice, DHS funds refugee services with federal funds. With passage of this bill, DHS would have the authority to use state General Fund for refugee services, potentially mitigating the impact of a reduction in federal funding, on both refugees and resettlement agencies.

This bill requires budgetary action for the appropriation of General Fund.