

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3206

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*Prepared by: Kim To
Reviewed by: Laurie Byerly
Date: April 8, 2019**Measure Description:**

Requires Department of Human Services to administer program to make support service providers available to individuals who are deaf-blind.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS)

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		
Personal Services	993,589	1,510,173
Services and Supplies	308,605	397,531
Special Payments	6,887,046	13,852,647
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$8,189,240	\$15,760,351
Other Funds		
Personal Services	59,724	301,023
Services and Supplies	47,460	61,351
Special Payments	9,229	31,868
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS	\$116,413	\$394,242
Federal Funds		
Services and Supplies	10,099	
Special Payments	41,651	143,819
TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS	\$51,750	\$143,819
TOTAL FUNDS	\$8,357,403	\$16,298,412
Positions	12	12
FTE	6.98	12.00

Analysis:

HB 3206 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to administer a statewide program to make available support service providers to support individuals who are deaf-blind. These specially trained professionals guide people who are deaf-blind by providing visual and environmental information; helping them live independently, enabling them to do their own mail, banking, shopping, and other essential errands. The bill directs DHS to convene a stakeholder advisory committee to assist the department in developing this program. The bill authorizes DHS to accept gifts, grants, or contributions from public and private sources.

DHS estimates the fiscal impact of this new statewide program to be \$8,357,403 Total Funds [\$8,189,240 General Fund, \$116,413 Other Funds, \$51,750 Federal Funds] and 12 positions (6.98 FTE) for the 2019-21 biennium; and \$16,298,412 Total Funds [\$15,760,351 General Fund, \$394,242 Other Funds, \$143,819 Federal Funds] and 12 positions (12.00 FTE) for the 2021-23 biennium.

Special payments of \$6,832,980 to providers is based on using an average, fully-loaded Home Care Worker hourly wage at 20 hours per month to represent the cost of service. DHS estimates approximately 3% (5,370 individuals) of all Deaf and Hard of Hearing Oregonians (approximately 179,000 individuals) would qualify for services under this measure. Of that subset, DHS estimates approximately 33% (or 1,500 individuals) would access services each biennium.

Staffing cost reflect the following positions to administer services to eligible clients:

Aging and People with Disability Division

- One Operations and Policy Analyst 3 to create new rules to implement the program, work with the Advisory committee, and oversee the program.
- Eight Case Managers to serve a projected 1,500 clients.
- One Training Specialist 2 person to provide guidance and training for Case Managers.

Background Check Unit

- One Compliance Specialist 2 position to conduct hearings.
- One Administrative Specialist 2 position to conduct fitness determinations.

Direct staffing costs and provider payments are 100% General Fund because there is no available federal funding source for this program. Expenditures would not be Medicaid-eligible and other potentially allowable sources, such as vocational rehabilitation funding or Social Services Block Grant are already fully subscribed.

The DHS Background Check Unit (BCU) is a shared services office for both DHS and the Oregon Health (OHA). DHS estimates passage of this measure has the potential to add about 1,500 new home care workers who will be subject to recertifications and be placed on the BCU Long Term Care Registry. Other Funds and Federal Funds amounts reflect how DHS and OHA budget for the BCU Unit through agency-wide cost allocation.