FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Requires Oregon Health Authority to provide grant to organization for purpose of conducting outreach to citizens of island nations in Compact of Free Association residing in Oregon to enroll citizens of island nations in Compact of Free Association in medical assistance.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2021-23 Biennium	2023-25 Biennium
General Fund	\$551,654	\$551,654
Federal Funds	551,636	551,636
Total Funds	\$1,103,290	\$1,103,290
Positions	2	2
FTE	2.00	2.00

Analysis:

SB 706 - 1 designates the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) as responsible for conducting outreach to Compact of Free Association (COFA) island nation citizens residing in Oregon, with the goal of enrolling all eligible COFA citizens in medical assistance. OHA is directed to convene a work group consisting of individuals with experience in conducting outreach to members of the Marshallese, Chuukese, Pohnpeian, Yapese, Kosraean, and Palauan communities, to advise and assist OHA in outreach. OHA is to develop and administer a \$300,000 grant to an organization that represents all communities of COFA citizens, in order to maximize enrollment and retention of eligible COFA citizens in medical assistance. Starting June 30, 2022, OHA is directed to develop and administer an annual grant of an unspecified amount for the same purpose. OHA is directed to employ two full-time multilingual and multicultural staff persons to coordinate outreach and marketing. This measure includes an emergency clause and takes effect on passage.

OHA anticipates the total cost of this measure to be \$1,103,290, including \$551,654 General Fund and \$551,636 Federal Funds from federal Medicaid match in both 2021-23 and 2023-25. Please note that actual costs in 2023-25 will likely be higher than the numbers here as these figures do not include inflation.

OHA would hire two full-time permanent Operations and Policy Analyst 3 (OPA 3, 2.00 FTE) positions to coordinate outreach and marketing under this measure. These positions would be housed in OHA Central Operations - Community Partnership Outreach Program. The total cost of these positions would be \$419,816 for Personal Services, and \$83,658 for Services and Supplies; funds are split with approximately half of funding derived from the General Fund and half from Federal Funds.

OHA assumes that the grant provided each calendar year under this measure would total \$300,000, for a total cost of \$600,000 each biennium. Grant monies are also assumed to be half General Fund and half Federal Funds. Note that this measure does not specify a required grant funding level after the first \$300,000 grant is administered in 2021.

There is no fiscal impact to the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) as a result of this measure. Under current law the COFA program is administered by DCBS, but the DCBS budget and HB 2041 (2021), which is currently under consideration by the Legislature, would transfer this program to OHA.