

**REVENUE IMPACT OF  
PROPOSED LEGISLATION**  
81st Oregon Legislative Assembly  
2021 Regular Session  
Legislative Revenue Office

**Bill Number:** SB 136 - 1  
**Revenue Area:** Corporate Taxation  
**Economist:** Kaitlyn Harger  
**Date:** 3/18/2021

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official*

**Measure Description:**

Requires use of taxpayer's audience or subscribers in determining numerator of apportionment factor for broadcasting sales, for purposes of corporate excise taxation. This bill largely maintains the audience apportionment method with some changes. The bill directs taxpayers to use third party ratings or information from their books and records to determine the numerator of the sales factor. In cases where aforementioned information is not available the Department of Revenue may use the ratio of Oregon population to United States population as the sales factor. In the case of licensing to subscription services or advertising on subscription services the numerator of the sales factor is equal to 0.6% multiplied by the taxpayer's receipts from licensing to subscription services and advertising on subscription services. The bill also adds to statute a modified definition of broadcasting. Additionally, the bill provides all taxpayers engaged in broadcasting with an option to elect to apply their apportionment ratio to total gross receipts, not just broadcasting sales. The bill clarifies that the denominator of the sales factor shall include the total gross receipts in the taxpayer's regular course of business, including receipts from tangible personal property and real property. Finally, the bill repeals statutes specifically related to interstate broadcasters and removes from statute references that become obsolete upon repeal. The bill applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020 and takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**Revenue Impact (in \$Millions):**

|                     | Fiscal Year |             | Biennium    |             |             |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                     | 2019-20     | 2020-21     | 2019-21     | 2021-23     | 2023-25     |
| <b>General Fund</b> | <b>-0.3</b> | <b>-0.6</b> | <b>-0.9</b> | <b>-1.2</b> | <b>-1.2</b> |

**Impact Explanation:**

The bill adjusts current law such that different revenue streams for taxpayers engaged in broadcasting are apportioned separately. Under current law, all receipts of a broadcaster other than tangible personal property and real property, are apportioned using a single apportionment factor. Upon passage, SB 136 allows broadcasting sales specifically to be apportioned using audience or subscriber information. Sales from licensing and advertising on subscription services are apportioned differently, as described below. The estimated revenue impact is comprised of three components relating to the three revenue streams in of taxpayers engaged in broadcasting. The revenue impact estimate above is based on tax return information from the Department of

Revenue (DOR). Variation in future revenue received by the state may be subject to ongoing developments in audits as well as legal decisions impacting this area of tax law.

First, the bill directs taxpayers with broadcasting receipts that derive from licensing to or advertising on subscription services to calculate the numerator of the sales factor by multiplying 0.6% by the sum of the taxpayer’s receipts from licensing to or advertising on subscription services. Information from the Motion Picture Association (MPA) indicates that on average, licensing to and advertising on subscription services makes up roughly 10% of member companies revenue streams. Comparing this method of calculation to the baseline calculation of apportioning these receipts using the audience method indicates that this will result in an average annual revenue decline of roughly \$430,000.

Second, the bill also provides taxpayers engaged in broadcasting the option to elect to apply the apportionment method for broadcasting sales to the taxpayer’s total gross receipts. Taxpayers will likely take this election when doing so results in a lower tax liability compared to apportioning only broadcaster sales. Since the election is equivalent to current law, there is no revenue impact associated with taxpayers making this election.

Finally, the bill requires taxpayers with broadcasting sales to use audience or subscriber information to determine the numerator of the sales factor used to apportion multistate broadcasting sales revenue. This is a policy change from current law which requires such apportionment for all receipts, except tangible personal property and real property. The bill separates out broadcasting sales from other sources of revenue. While broadcasting sales are still apportioned using audience or subscriber information, sales of other types are apportioned using market-based sourcing rules related to those revenue streams. Given the election option, it is expected that this choice will be made when it results in a lower tax liability.

**Creates, Extends, or Expands Tax Expenditure: Yes  No**

The policy purpose of this measure is