

## FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Measure: SB 682

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

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### **Measure Description:**

Establishes Adult Suicide Intervention and Prevention Coordinator within Oregon Health Authority.

### **Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists (BLPCT), Department of Education (ODE), Occupational Therapy Licensing Board (OTLB), Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine (OBNM), Oregon Board of Psychology, Oregon Medical Board (OMB), School Districts, Board of Licensed Social Workers (BLSW), Mental Health Regulatory Agency (MHRA), Oregon Board of Chiropractic Examiners (OBCE), Oregon Board of Physical Therapy, Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN), Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC)

### **Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal - See explanatory analysis.

### **Analysis:**

SB 682 establishes an Adult Suicide Intervention and Prevention Coordinator in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). The coordinator is to facilitate the development of a statewide strategic plan to address suicides by adults, and to develop prevention and intervention strategies for working with adults who are suicidal; the strategic plan is to be updated every five years. The coordinator is directed to improve outreach to adults who are at risk for suicide, and to provide technical assistance to state and local partners and coordinate interagency efforts to establish suicide prevention and intervention strategies for adults who are suicidal. The coordinator is directed to prepare an annual report to OHA and the interim and regular committees of the Legislative Assembly related to health, with data on the number, location, manner, and demographics of completed and attempted suicides by adults in Oregon.

The measure also requires OHA and certain health licensing boards to require licensees to complete between three and six hours of continuing education related to suicide risk assessment, treatment, and management. Certain licensees must complete this requirement once, and others must complete the continuing education every six years. This portion of the measure is operative January 1, 2022.

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage. This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of the budgetary impact of establishment of a position in statute.

### **Oregon Health Authority**

OHA currently employs a permanent Adult Suicide Intervention and Prevention Coordinator who is responsible for creating an Adult Suicide Intervention and Prevention Plan. This position was approved and funded as part of OHA's 2019-21 Legislatively Adopted Budget. There is no fiscal impact to OHA to implement this measure.

### **Teacher Standards and Practices Commission and School Districts**

There is an indeterminate impact for the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) and School Districts.

School Districts could have a fiscal impact if continuing education training must be done during normal teaching hours. If this is the case, then a substitute teacher will need to be hired. It is also not clear who would be required to pay for the continuing education training.

TSPC notes that there are some questions regarding implementation of this measure. It may be difficult for educators to complete the required continuing education if this education must be completed in time for license applications and renewals starting immediately after the operative date of January 1, 2022. TSPC also notes that there may be some issues tracking continuing education completion, since this requirement cannot be added to their eLicensing system; and that it is unclear if this measure applies to all licensees, such as short-term licenses that do not otherwise require continuing education.

**Other state agencies**

No or minimal fiscal impact is anticipated for any health-related licensing board or the Oregon Department of Education.