FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

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Measure Description:

Establishes Truth in Labeling Task Force. Repeals statutes related to labeling of rigid plastic bottles and containers.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Legislative Assembly

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Summary of Expenditure Impact - Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ):

	2021-23 Biennium	2023-25 Biennium
Other Funds		
Personal Services	68,114	
Services and Supplies	82,859	
Total Other Funds	\$150,973	\$0
Positions	1	
FTE	0.34	

Analysis:

SB 581 with the -1 amendment repeals statutes related to labeling of rigid plastic bottles and containers, including statutes that:

- Require all rigid plastic bottles and rigid plastic containers sold in Oregon to be labeled with a code that indicates the resin used to produce the rigid plastic bottle or rigid plastic container.
- Directs the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to maintain a list of abbreviations used on rigid plastic bottles and containers labels and to provide a copy of that list to any person upon request.
- Prohibiting the manufacture for use in Oregon of any rigid plastic container or rigid plastic bottle that is not labeled.

In addition, the measure establishes a 15-member Truth in Labeling Task Force charged with studying and evaluating misleading or confusing claims regarding the recyclability of products made on a product or product packaging. The measure authorizes the Task Force to meet using video conferencing technology. The Task Force is required to submit a report to an interim of the Legislature by June 1, 2022. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is required to provide staff support to the Task Force. The Task Force sunsets on December 31, 2022.

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

DEQ estimates the cost of providing administrative support to the Task Force to be \$150,973 Other Funds including a limited duration full-time Operations and Policy Analyst 3 position, totaling 0.34 FTE for the 2021-23 biennium. The estimate also includes \$20,000 for Department of Justice consultation and \$50,000 for contracted research.

Legislative Assembly

The measure specifies that non-legislative members of the Task Force serve as volunteers and are not entitled to compensation and reimbursement. However, two members of the Task Force will be legislative members who are entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. The estimated per diem and travel reimbursement cost for the two legislative members to participate on the task force is \$2,300 assuming five meetings. This amount includes the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax and assumes per diem remains at \$151 and the average mileage of 90 miles at the current rate of \$0.56 per mile. Although the 2021-23 Legislative Assembly budget contains funds allocated for interim committee and task force, if the work required by this Task Force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2021-23 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required. The Task Force would not incur additional costs to the Legislative Assembly budget if the meetings are held at the Capitol building during Legislative Session, Task force or Legislative Days.

Because this measure establishes a new task force, the measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.