FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Establishes the Small Donor Elections Program for candidates for the office of state Senator or state Representative. Creates the Small Donor Elections Fund. Directs the Secretary of State to develop a process for distributing moneys from the Small Donor Elections Fund to candidates meeting the eligibility criteria for the Small Donor Elections Program. Provides that any candidate participating in the Small Donor Elections Program who knowingly falsifies campaign records or who knowingly violates other provisions of the measure are subject to criminal and civil liability.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Secretary of State (SOS), Department of Revenue (DOR), Department of Justice (DOJ), Oregon Judicial Department (OJD), District Attorneys and their Deputies (DAs), Public Defense Services Commission (PDSC), Cities, Counties, Oregon State Police (OSP), Department of Corrections (DOC), Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), Legislative Assembly

Analysis:

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the House Committee on Rules to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

House Bill 2680, as amended by the -12 amendments, replaces the introduced version. The measure establishes the Small Donor Elections Program for candidates for the office of state Senator or state Representative. It creates the Small Donor Elections Fund, which is continuously appropriated to the Secretary of State (SOS). SOS must develop a process for distributing moneys from the Small Donor Elections Fund to candidates meeting the eligibility criteria for participation in the program. The measure provides that any candidate participating in the Small Donor Elections Program who knowingly falsifies campaign records or who knowingly violates other provisions of the program are subject to criminal and civil liability. The Department of Revenue must modify the Oregon individual income tax return form (unless it would add another page to the form) to provide a place for resident individual taxpayers to contribute to the Small Donor Elections Fund. The measure directs SOS to hire a full-time employee to provide voter education, support and outreach regarding Oregon campaign finance laws. The measure takes effect on passage and becomes operative on November 9, 2022.

Further Analysis Required

The measure is anticipated to have an impact on the Secretary of State, Department of Revenue, Department of Justice, Oregon Judicial Department, District Attorneys and their Deputies, Public Defense Services Commission, Cities, Counties, Oregon State Police, Department of Corrections, Criminal Justice Commission, and the Legislative Assembly.

A more complete fiscal analysis on the measure will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.