

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

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

**Measure: HB 2397 - A**

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

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Prepared by: Haylee Morse-Miller  
Reviewed by: Laurie Byerly, Gregory Jolivet, Tom MacDonald  
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**Measure Description:**

Establishes Senior Emergency Medical Services Innovation Program in Department of Human Services to fund and monitor certain local public sector pilot projects related to emergency medical services for seniors.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Cities, Counties, Department of Human Services (DHS), Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

**Analysis:**

HB 2397 - A establishes the Senior Emergency Medical Services Innovation Program within the Department of Human Services (DHS). The program is to select, fund, and monitor local public sector pilot projects to improve senior emergency medical services in the state. The pilot projects will be funded from the DHS Quality Care Fund, which has a current balance of approximately \$7.1 million.

This measure also establishes the Senior Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council, consisting of 10 members appointed by the Governor, which will advise DHS on selection and facilitation of pilot projects. DHS is directed to report to the Legislature on pilot projects selected for the program, and any recommendations for legislative changes to improve emergency services in Oregon.

Under this measure, the governing body of a local government is prohibited from enacting or enforcing any regulation that regulates care or services, or imposes a fee, for long term care or residential care facilities under certain circumstances. The measure sunsets on January 2, 2027.

Further information about the intended scope of this program is required to understand the fiscal impact of this measure. This measure does not include parameters such as total funding available for pilot projects, the number of pilot projects to be funded, or funding amounts per project, which makes the fiscal impact indeterminate.

Initial estimates from DHS are that one new full-time Administrative Specialist 2 (0.50 FTE in 2021-23, 1.00 FTE in 2023-25) will be required, at a total cost of \$99,503 Other Funds in 2021-23 and \$187,411 Other Funds in 2023-25. This fiscal assumes the cost of this position will be covered by the DHS Quality Care Fund. Additionally, DHS was granted position authority for an Operations and Policy Analyst 3 position in HB 5050 (2019) to “promote the effective use of emergency medical services by residents of licensed long-term care settings.” This position will also be dedicated to implementation of this program. Staffing needs may change given further information about the intended scope of the grant program.

This measure may have a fiscal impact for Cities by limiting a city’s ability to impose a fee or fine for long term care or residential care facilities. There is no fiscal impact for Counties or the Oregon Health Authority.