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## **Open Government Impact Statement**

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly 2021 Regular Session

## Measure: HB 2485

Only impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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## SUMMARY

Requires state agencies to reduce public records request fees by 50 percent if request is made in public interest, and requires state agencies to entirely waive fees if public records request is in public interest and narrowly tailored.

Requires requests made by members of news media to be treated as in public interest.

Requires, on or after January 1, 2022, local governments, local service districts and special government bodies to make identical reductions and waivers in public records requests fees unless governing body of records custodian conducts public meeting, deliberates on and resolves not to adopt fee reductions and waivers.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## **OPEN GOVERNMENT IMPACT**

Legislative Counsel has not adopted standards for drafting measures that establish exemptions from disclosure of public records.

This measure requires state agencies to reduce public records request fees by 50 percent if the request is in the public interest and requires state agencies to waive fees entirely if the public records request is in the public interest and is narrowly tailored. It specifies that requests made by members of the news media are to be treated as requests in the public interest.

This measure also requires local governments, local service districts and special government bodies to make identical reductions and waivers in public records request fees unless the governing body of the records custodian conducts a public meeting and deliberates on and resolves not to adopt fee reductions and waivers.

This measure does not impact public interests in disclosure that would be served if public records were subject to mandatory disclosure.