

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3236 - A

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 Task Force on Education Pathways.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Legislative Assembly, Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO), Department of Education (ODE), School Districts

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

HB 3236 A-Engrossed establishes the four-member Task Force on Education Pathways charged with reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of education pathways that are alternatives to the traditional education pathway offered by a public school. The review may include public charter schools, alternative education programs, the Juvenile Detention Education Program, the Youth Corrections Education Program, preparation programs for an approved high school equivalency test, and other programs. The Task Force is required to report to the Legislative Assembly any time within 30 days after its final meeting or at a time designated by the President and Speaker. The measure authorizes the Task Force to establish advisory and technical committees. Although the measure authorizes the Legislative Policy and Research Director (LPRO) to hire and fix the duties and compensation of employees necessary to perform the functions of the Task Force, the measure specifies that LPRO will use the services of continuing staff the greatest extent possible. The Task Force sunsets on December 31, 2022. The measure takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021 legislative session adjourns sine die.

The overall fiscal impact of this measure is indeterminate depending on the scope of the work undertaken by the Task Force, including the number of advisory and technical committees the Task Force may establish as well as the number of members each of these advisory and technical committees may have.

Legislative Assembly

The four legislative members of the Task Force will be entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. The estimated per diem and travel reimbursement cost for the four legislative members to participate on the Task Force from October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022 is \$3,700. 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.

Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO)

The measure requires LPRO to provide staff support to the Task Force. The 2021-23 Legislative Branch budget should contain funds allocated for LPRO support of interim committees and task forces.

Department of Education (ODE), School Districts

The fiscal impact of this measure to ODE and school districts is indeterminate. Although the measure does not name ODE and school districts as participants in the main Task Force, the measure authorizes the Task Force to establish advisory and technical committees. This fiscal analysis assumes that if requested by the Task Force, these entities will reprioritize existing staff and resources to serve on the advisory and technical committees established by the Task Force, as well as to furnish the Task Force with existing available data, information, advice, and other support. However, if the membership of the advisory and technical committees established by the Task Force includes public school teachers, there could be a cost to school districts to allowing a teacher time away from work to attend Task Force meetings. For example, a school may need to hire a substitute to teacher to cover for the teacher's time away from class to attend Task Force meetings. In addition, district staff time may be needed to gather data and provide analysis to support the work of the Task Force. The fiscal impact of this work will depend on what kind of information and analysis the Task Force requests from school districts.