# FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2022 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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### Measure Description:

Creates qualified mental health associate incentive program within Oregon Health Authority.

## Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Department of Human Services (DHS), Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Counties, Oregon Youth Authority (OYA)

### Analysis:

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

The measure creates the qualified mental health associate incentive program in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). The program is to provide loan repayment subsidies to mental health associates who commit to serving children in child-caring agencies in Oregon for at least 24 months; OHA is to prescribe program criteria by rule, including participant eligibility, priority for distribution of funds, and financial penalties if people fail to comply with the participation terms. OHA may contract with an external entity for program administration. This measure appropriates \$250,000 General Fund to OHA for deposit in the existing Health Care Provider Incentive Fund; moneys are to be used for the purpose of providing loan repayment subsidies.

This measure also establishes the Child Welfare Cultural Equity Program within the Department of Human Services (DHS), to ensure access to diverse child welfare service providers to fit the cultural diversity needs of the population being served. DHS may develop, or contract with nonprofit organizations to develop, methods and best practices related to determination of cultural diversity needs of children served by DHS, incentivization and recruitment of diverse child welfare service providers, and how to connect children with these providers. This measure appropriates \$250,000 General Fund for the purpose of the Child Welfare Cultural Equity Program.

This measure takes effect on the 91st day after the legislature adjourns sine die.

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

# Further Analysis Required