

SB 1550 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

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Meeting Dates: 2/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Senate Bill 1550 transfers the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement from the Office of the Governor to the Department of Human Services (DHS) including all employee, records, property, and unexpended revenues.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

SB 778 (2021) established the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement (Office) within the Office of the Governor. The purpose of the Office is to develop, implement, maintain, and oversee statewide immigration and refugee programs and services that coordinate with long-term support services to meet the needs of immigrant and refugee populations in Oregon. The Office is responsible for collecting data on immigration and refugee populations in Oregon to determine needs to track progress in reducing social, economic, and health disparities for refugees and immigrant populations.

SB 778 appropriated \$1,376,037 General Fund and established four positions (3.83 FTE) to support the work of the Office. The Office consists of the following four permanent, full time positions: one Principal Executive Manager G to serve as the Director overseeing statewide strategy for immigration and refugee programs and services, one Operations and Policy Analyst 4 to manage community partnerships, one Operations and Policy Analyst 4 to manage data collection and research, and one Executive Support Specialist 2 to provide administrative support for the Office.