

## FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2664 - 2

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

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

---

Prepared by: MaryMichelle Sosne  
Reviewed by: Tim Walker, Julie Neburka, Gregory Jolivette  
Date: 3/1/2023

---

### Measure Description:

Directs Department of Human Services to ensure provision of specified services to individuals receiving child welfare services who are deaf or hard of hearing.

### Government Unit(s) Affected:

Board of Licensed Social Workers, Department of Human Services, Department of Education

### Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

### Analysis:

HB 2664 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to determine the communication preference of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and receiving child welfare services and ensure this communication is culturally and linguistically appropriate. The measure allows DHS to enter into contracts to obtain culturally and linguistically affirmative services and maintain contracts with certain professions to ensure accessible child welfare services for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. DHS must establish and maintain a database for tracking individuals who receive the above services in all child welfare service programs. The measure requires DHS to create and implement strategies to provide the above services through remote technology. DHS is authorized to establish procedures and guidelines to enact the requirements of the measure. DHS is required to be the central coordinator for resources, training, referral, information, and training for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and receiving child welfare services and associated stakeholders. The measure requires DHS to establish and administer a grant program for service providers assisting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to increase service delivery. The total fiscal impact for the 2023-25 biennium is indeterminate.

### Department of Human Services

The fiscal impact of this measure is indeterminate because the programmatic and budgetary scope of providing services to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and receiving child welfare services is undefined. The following list reflects scope requirements or issues needing additional information to provide a more complete fiscal impact analysis:

- The population of children and families with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing receiving child welfare services
- Defined services for providers and the support these providers would require from DHS
- Defined training program requirements
- Parameters for the grant program

Despite the need for additional information and definitions related to the scope of the measure, some rough projections of the fiscal impact can be made to serve as a frame of reference for potential costs. To complete the work of the measure, a new team would be established within the Child Welfare program at DHS, which include the following seven positions:

- One Child Welfare Manager 1 position to oversee the group.

- Four Operations and Policy Analyst 3 positions to work as ADA consultants to support district staff, service providers and community partners and ensure access to remote care.
- One Program Analyst 3 to assist with the development of rules and policy, track the requirements of the bill, gather data and information for reporting.
- One Training and Development Specialist 2 to assist in developing and delivering training to staff and stakeholders.
- One Administrative Specialist 2 to provide program support and assistance with data collection and tracking.

The total cost for these positions is estimated to be \$873,484 General Fund and \$288,934 Federal Funds (eight positions or 6 FTE). The measure allows DHS to contract with service providers but these costs are indeterminate at this time.

There is no fiscal impact to the Board of Licensed Social Workers or the Oregon Department of Education.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its budgetary impact on the state's General Fund.