

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 469

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: Tom MacDonald, Kim To
Date: 3/17/23

Measure Description:

Establishes Indian Health Scholarship Program to provide free tuition and fees for qualifying Indian health profession students in exchange for student commitment to work at tribal service site after graduation.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Commission on Indian Services, Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Oregon Health and Science University

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

SB 469 establishes the Indian Health Scholarship Program administered by the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) and appropriates an unspecified amount from the General Fund to OHSU to administer the program and fund awards. The measure requires participants who fail to meet the terms of the scholarship award to repay their award and grants OHSU the authority to collect amounts due or have the Department of Revenue or a contractor collect debts. Returned awards must be deposited into a fund that will pay for future repayment efforts. Awards are intended to begin with the 2024-25 academic year, the remainder of the measure is effective January 1, 2024.

At this time, all the ramifications of this measure cannot be fully predicted and therefore the fiscal impact cannot be determined. Without a specific General Fund appropriation, OHSU is unable to determine administrative costs related to running the program, but notes administration would include internal and external stakeholder coordination, stakeholder engagement, data reporting and analysis, legal services, and repayment coordination.

The Legislative Fiscal Office notes funds in the bill are appropriated directly to OHSU, however, OHSU is a public corporation and cannot receive a direct appropriation. State support to OHSU is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) and HECC distributes funding to OHSU.

There is no fiscal impact to the Commission on Indian Services or the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.