

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION****Measure: HB 2656 - 4**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

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

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**Measure Description:**

Requires each school district in the state to provide two informational surveys to school district students. Directs the Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority, in collaboration with the department, to each develop a survey for use in school districts.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Health Authority, School Districts, Community Colleges, Public Universities

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

**Summary of Expenditure Impact:**

|                                       | 2023-25 Biennium   | 2025-27 Biennium   |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Oregon Department of Education</b> |                    |                    |
| <b>General Fund</b>                   |                    |                    |
| Personal Services                     | \$380,710          | \$435,100          |
| Services and Supplies                 | \$108,053          | \$113,035          |
| <b>Total General Fund</b>             | <b>\$488,763</b>   | <b>\$548,135</b>   |
| <i>Total Funds</i>                    | <i>\$488,763</i>   | <i>\$548,135</i>   |
| <i>Positions</i>                      | <i>2</i>           | <i>2</i>           |
| <i>FTE</i>                            | <i>1.76</i>        | <i>2.00</i>        |
| <b>Oregon Health Authority</b>        |                    |                    |
| <b>General Fund</b>                   |                    |                    |
| Personal Services                     | \$421,990          | \$562,657          |
| Services and Supplies                 | \$548,349          | \$558,135          |
| <b>Total General Fund</b>             | <b>\$970,339</b>   | <b>\$1,120,792</b> |
| <i>Total Funds</i>                    | <i>\$970,339</i>   | <i>\$1,120,792</i> |
| <i>Positions</i>                      | <i>3</i>           | <i>3</i>           |
| <i>FTE</i>                            | <i>1.88</i>        | <i>2.50</i>        |
| <b>Total General Fund</b>             | <b>\$1,459,102</b> | <b>\$1,668,927</b> |
| <b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>            | <b>\$1,459,102</b> | <b>\$1,668,927</b> |
| <i>Total Positions</i>                | <i>5</i>           | <i>5</i>           |
| <i>Total FTE</i>                      | <i>3.64</i>        | <i>4.50</i>        |

**Analysis:**

House Bill 2656, as amended by the -4 amendments, requires each school district in the state to provide two informational surveys to school district students: one administered by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to gather information about the education experiences of students in the state, including information on learning, opportunities to learn, and school culture and climate; and one administered by the Oregon Health Authority, in collaboration with ODE, to improve the health and well-being of all students in the state and to help

them succeed. At least five days prior to administering a survey, school districts must provide notice of the survey to the parents or guardians to whom the survey would be administered and provide parents or guardians the opportunity to review the survey beforehand. Parents or guardians must be allowed to decline, either verbally or in writing, to have their children participate in these surveys, and students may decline at any time to participate in these surveys, either verbally or in writing. Students who participate in these surveys may decline to answer specific questions. ODE must annually review the surveys and make revisions in the data collection and distribution of data to enable school districts to better assist schools.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction within ODE must convene an advisory committee to explore options for expanding or revising the education accountability framework in this state. The advisory committee must include representatives of school districts, teachers' unions, and post-secondary institutions of education. The measure takes effect on January 1, 2024.

### **Oregon Department of Education**

The measure is anticipated to have a fiscal impact on ODE. The measure would require ODE to administer or collaborate in two new surveys and convene an advisory committee.

Although the measure does not specify who would staff and support the advisory committee, this fiscal impact statement assumes that ODE would staff and support the advisory committee; the advisory committee would be composed of 12 members; the advisory committee would meet once in-person and virtually thereafter; and the advisory committee would reimburse members for mileage, lodging, and substitute teacher pay. Given these assumptions, the costs of the advisory committee are anticipated to be minimal and absorbable within ODE's 2023-25 current service level budget.

ODE would need additional staff to coordinate the development, deployment, and reporting for the surveys; review and analyze survey data for the state, school districts, and public schools; staff and support the advisory committee; and respond to any recommendations put forward by the advisory committee. To handle this increase in workload, ODE would need one permanent, full-time Education Specialist 2 position (0.88 FTE) to ensure across ODE that survey tools are maintained and brought to scale statewide in all school districts; and one permanent, full-time Research Analyst 2 position (0.88 FTE) in the Office of Research, Assessment, Data, Accountability, and Reporting to assist with data analysis and reporting needs. ODE may incur additional project management costs to support the development of the advisory committee and procurement processes of the new surveys, but they are anticipated to be absorbable within the current workload of project management and procurement staff. The total estimated cost of these two positions, including related services and supplies, is \$488,763 General Fund in 2023-25 and \$548,135 General Fund in 2025-27.

### **Oregon Health Authority**

The measure is anticipated to have a fiscal impact on OHA. To develop and implement the new survey requirements, OHA's Adolescent and School Health (ASH) program would need to establish one permanent, full-time Operations and Policy Analyst 3 position (0.75 FTE) to provide technical assistance to school districts, schools, and school partners to use their data; coordinate ASH staff work on the survey; and support policy discussions related to survey processes and findings. ASH would also incur an estimated \$500,000 to retain a survey contractor to support moving from a biannual to annual survey, which is anticipated to more than double the number of participating school districts and schools. Expected costs include survey programming, testing and deployment, development of recruitment materials, outreach and recruitment to school districts and schools, updating and maintaining the results dashboard, and developing both state and local reports.

Additionally, the Program Design and Evaluation Services (PDES) within the Oregon State Public Health Director's Office would manage the survey processes. To handle this increase in workload, PDES would need one permanent, full-time Research Analyst 3 position (0.75 FTE) to serve as the survey coordinator and manage the contractor and internal Public Health Division partners that support the survey and use the survey data; and one permanent, part-time Research Analyst 3 position (0.38 FTE) to monitor and ensure quality control for data

collection, data processing and cleaning, conduct weighting of the final, weighted dataset, disseminate survey results via the data portal, and fulfill internal and external data requests.

The total estimated fiscal impact to OHA is \$970,339 General Fund in 2023-25 and \$1,120,792 General Fund in 2025-27.

### **School Districts**

The measure is anticipated to have a fiscal impact on school districts, but the impact is indeterminate. The measure would require school districts and schools to conduct these new surveys, provide notice of the surveys to parents or guardians of the students, and provide parents or guardians the opportunity to review the surveys beforehand. Depending on how school districts provide these surveys to students and parents or guardians, the measure might increase school districts services and supplies costs associated with mailing and printing hardcopies of the surveys. However, it is unknown how school districts would conduct these surveys and provide notice and review to parents or guardians. If school districts were to conduct the surveys over the Internet or provide to notice to parents or guardians via email, the fiscal impact to school districts would be substantially reduced.

Because the measure does not specify how school districts would provide the surveys and the requisite notice and review to parents or guardians, and because the way in which school districts implement these requirements might vary from district to district, the fiscal impact to school districts is indeterminate.

### **Community Colleges and Public Universities**

The measure is anticipated to have a minimal fiscal impact on community colleges and public universities, as they would have representatives on the ODE advisory committee.

### **Total Estimated Fiscal Impact**

The total estimated fiscal impact to ODE and OHA, including five positions (3.64 FTE in 2023-25; 4.50 FTE in 2025-27), is \$1,459,102 General Fund in 2023-25 and \$1,668,927 General Fund in 2025-27.

The measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its impact to the State's General Fund and the biennial budgets of ODE and OHA.