

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2391 - 1

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:

Appropriates moneys to Department of Justice to fund county victim assistance programs.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Administrative Services, Judicial Department, Public Defense Services Commission, Department of Justice, Counties, District Attorneys

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
Department of Justice		
General Fund		
Special Payments	\$25,400,000	\$0
Total Fiscal Impact	\$25,400,000	\$0

Analysis:

The measure provides a one-time \$25.4 million General Fund appropriation to the Department of Justice (DOJ) in the 2023-25 biennium and directs DOJ to distribute monies to counties for victim assistance programs. The measure requires DOJ to distribute an amount sufficient to fund one victim assistance advocate position in a county district attorney office for every four full-time equivalent prosecuting attorneys; or if less than four full-time equivalent prosecuting attorneys, an amount sufficient to fund one victim assistance advocate.

In addition, the measure requires amounts distributed to be equal biennial amounts for each full-time equivalent victim assistance advocate and any unexpended monies as of June 30, 2025, be reverted to the General Fund. The measure is effective on the 91st after sine die.

In addition to the \$25.4 million General Fund appropriation, DOJ reports that the Department’s fiscal impact includes two limited duration Program Analyst 3 positions (1.75 FTE) to monitor and administer the funds that are distributed to counties at an additional cost of \$519,646 General Fund. The Legislative Fiscal Office, however, notes that DOJ should be able absorb the cost of this measure for two reasons: (a) DOJ already routinely distributes funding to counties, including funding for victim assistance; and (b) the measure imposes no additional burden on DOJ other than distributing the funding to county victim assistance programs.

Counties will receive funding from DOJ to support victim assistance programs; however, are not anticipated to incur any other costs related to the implementation of this measure.

There is no fiscal impact for the Department of Administrative Services, Public Defense Services Commission, Oregon Judicial Department, or District Attorneys.

The provision in the measure related to unexpended funds reverting or returning to the state General Fund requires qualification. Only unexpended General Fund remaining within DOJ's budget would revert to the General Fund. Any funding distributed to counties and unexpended at the end of the biennium would be retained by counties.

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