

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 270 - 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:

Authorizes the Department of Corrections to enter into agreements to offer academic programs to adults in custody.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Corrections, Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal - See explanatory analysis

Analysis:

The measure authorizes the Department of Corrections (DOC) to enter into agreements that offer academic programs to adults in custody (AIC) at community colleges located outside of the boundaries of the community college district in which a correctional facility that houses adults in custody is located, a post-secondary distance education academic program, or any other post-secondary academic program. The measure also authorizes DOC to enter into agreements that offer specified academic programs if, the program is consistent with administration rules and regulations adopted by DOC and federal regulations related to Pell Grants. The measure is effective January 1, 2024.

The fiscal impact for DOC and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) is anticipated to be minimal. The measure, as amended by the -1, allows DOC to adopt rules for what types of post-secondary education programs may be enrolled in by AICs that are offered outside the territorial boundary of the community college that serves the prison in which the AIC resides. DOC will utilize this rule-making authority to ensure that adequate staff exists to support the desired programs and that Federal Pell Grants, newly eligible to people in prison beginning in 2023-24, would be utilized.

For HECC, the fiscal impact is anticipated to be minimal based on the assumption that tuitions and fees will be covered by the AIC or currently existing financial aid programs like Federal Pell Grants.