

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

**Measure: HB 3223 - A14**

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:**

Permits the Oregon Board of Dentistry to require written examinations as part of the dental assistant certification process. Establishes advisory committee to study workforce shortages and certification requirements.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Board of Dentistry, Task Force/Committee/Workgroup

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

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

**Analysis:**

HB 3223-A14 replaces the introduced measure. The measure permits the Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) to require written examinations as part of the dental assistant certification process and specifies examination requirements. The measure prohibits OBD from requiring an applicant, for any type of dental assistant certification, to complete a written examination more than once as part of the certification process. Provisions of the measure apply to all applications submitted on or after January 1, 2025.

In addition, the measure directs OBD to convene a seven-member advisory committee with a majority of members having experience working as dental assistants. The committee is directed to study the dental assistant workforce shortage in Oregon and the requirements for dental assistant certification in other states. The committee shall advise the board on a quarterly basis on options to address the workforce shortage and provide modifications to the dental assistant certification process.

The measure takes effect on the 91st day following sine die.

The potential fiscal impact of the measure for OBD is \$20,000 Other Funds for the 2023-25 biennium. In addition to the six yearly board meetings, the Board anticipates an additional four board meetings to complete the work prescribed in the measure. These costs include \$8,000 Other Funds for board member per diem, \$7,000 Other Funds for the additional workload to be completed by overtime eligible staff, and \$5,000 Other Funds for Attorney General fees for consultation and guidance on rulemaking. OBD reports these costs can be absorbed within current resources.