

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 231

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:

Directs Department of Human Services to establish and maintain centralized child abuse reporting system.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

District Attorneys, Judicial Department, Department of State Police, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Human Services, Department of Justice, Information Technology

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

SB 231 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to develop and maintain a centralized child abuse reporting system which must include a telephone hotline and a website to collect abuse reports. The measure also modifies child abuse reporting requirements. Modifications to reporting requirements and affected statutes apply to child abuse reports made on or after the effective date of this measure, however, the measure is silent on the expected delivery date of the centralized child abuse reporting system.

Information Technology services are provided to DHS and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) through the Office of Information Services (OIS), which is housed in OHA and funded through a shared services agreement between the two agencies. The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) notes that implementation of this measure includes an information technology component that is likely to require the OIS to comply with the state's IT investment oversight processes. Therefore, the information technology pricing component of this impact statement serves as a high-level preliminary approximation. If this measure passes, the agency will have to: (1) complete business requirements analysis; (2) develop a business case; (3) hire/assign or contract with qualified and experienced project management or other professional staff resources; and (4) develop foundational project management plans to demonstrate the feasibility of the project and its scope, as well as refine cost and schedule estimates pursuant to protocols developed by the Office of the State Chief Information Officer and LFO. Depending on a variety of cost or risk factors, OHA may also be required to contract for independent quality management services in compliance with ORS 276A.223.

Oregon Health Authority

To maintain and enhance the system, OIS may need two additional permanent full-time positions, an Information System Specialist 7 and Information System Specialist 8. The agency has advised costs for these positions, \$305,187 Other Funds for 2023-25 and \$610,376 Other Funds for 2025-27 can be fully absorbed through its existing services and supplies budget.

Additionally, passage of the measure may require a reprioritization of current OIS workload, which requires approval by the DHS/OHA Shared Services Budget Committee. The Shared Services Budget Committee will advise if additional resources are required and evaluate impact to existing service level agreements. Should the committee find additional resources are required, OHA will submit a request for additional funding or positions in the future.

As the agency anticipates absorbing the costs of the new positions, no budgetary action is required to address the fiscal impact of this measure as written. At this time, the measure does not require a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. Such consideration might become warranted when the cumulative fiscal impact of multiple measures of a similar nature begins to materially affect the agency's budget and its ability to fulfill its statutory responsibilities.

Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of State Police (OSP), District Attorneys (DA) and Judicial Department

The proposed legislation has been determined to have no expenditure impact on these agencies.