FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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Measure Description:

Establishes Oregon Public Assistance Grant Account and Oregon Individual Assistance Grant Account as accounts in the Oregon Disaster Response Fund.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Emergency Management, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians, Burns Paiute Tribe, Cities, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Coquille Indian Tribe, Counties, Klamath Tribes, Special Districts Association of Oregon

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

The measure establishes the Oregon Public Assistance Grant Account and Oregon Individual Assistance Grant Account within the Oregon Disaster Response Fund and continuously appropriates monies to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM). The measure requires ODEM to use monies in the Oregon Public Assistance Grant Account for providing grants to local governments, special governmental bodies, federally recognized Indian tribes, and nonprofit organizations to repair or replace critical infrastructure or restore economic centers impacted by state-declared emergencies that are not federally declared disasters and match federal funding available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Public Assistance Program for the same purposes. Funding may also be provided to state agencies and nonprofit organizations for emergency response activities. The measure requires ODEM to use monies in the Oregon Individual Assistance Grant Account for providing grants to individuals and households for basic emergency assistances costs following state-declared emergencies that are not federally declared disasters; providing crisis counseling services, disaster case management and legal services to individuals and households; and providing grants to long-term recovery groups for coordination and distribution of assistance. The measure is effective January 1, 2024.

The fiscal impact for ODEM is indeterminate. The amount and source of funding for awarding grants unknown. The agency submitted a policy package in the agency request budget for the 2023-25 biennium requesting \$31.9 million General Fund for community disaster recovery assistance. The request includes \$30 million for awarding grants and \$1.9 million for eight positions to administer the program. The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) notes that the Department would need Other Funds expenditure limitation to expend monies out of the Oregon Disaster Response Fund.

There is no fiscal impact for Burns Paiute Tribe, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz, Klamath Tribes, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, Coquille Indian Tribe, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, or counties.

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LFO requested, but has not received, fiscal impact information from the Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) or cities. In absence of this information, the fiscal impact to special districts and cities is indeterminate. If fiscal impact information is provided by SDAO or cities, LFO will issue a revised fiscal impact statement.

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.

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