

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 344 - A

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:

Extends the Justice Reinvestment Grant Program through July 1, 2033.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Criminal Justice Commission, Judicial Department, Department of Corrections, Counties

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
Criminal Justice Commission		
General Fund		
Personal Services	\$136,391	\$261,218
Special Payments	\$26,825,924	\$55,851,574
Total Fiscal Impact	\$26,962,315	\$56,112,792
<i>Total Positions</i>	0	1
<i>Total FTE</i>	0.50	1.00

Analysis:

The measure extends the Justice Reinvestment Grant Program (JRI) administered by the Criminal Justice Commission through July 1, 2033.

HB 3194 (2013) established the JRI program which provides grants to counties for the purpose of creating processes to assess offenders and provide a continuum of community-based programs that reduce recidivism and decrease the county’s utilization of Department of Correction institutions. Since implementation of the program, the number of adults in custody has decreased by approximately 2,300 individuals and recidivism rates in Oregon have decreased. Absent extension of the sunset, it is expected that the increased costs to the public safety system would include higher prosecution, public defense, and court costs, and increases to the prison population that may result in higher costs to the Department of Corrections. Under current law, the program sunsets July 1, 2024.

Criminal Justice Commission (CJC)

With the sunset of the JRI program mid-biennium, CJC’s 2023-25 current service level budget only provides for one year of funding and position authority for the program. By extending the sunset, CJC would need an additional \$26.9 million General Fund, which would continue funding the existing Program Analyst 3 position for the full biennium and provide continued grant funding through the 2023-25 biennium. The General Fund increases to \$56.1 million to continue the program in the 2025-27 biennium.

Department of Corrections (DOC)

The fiscal impact for DOC is indeterminate. Currently, the Community Corrections program at DOC is operated through intergovernmental agreements between the Department and counties to provide supervision, sanctions, and services. However, Linn County and Douglas County's community corrections programs are operated directly by DOC as result of those counties opting out in 2004 as provided for in ORS 423.478(2). Linn County received approximately \$386,000 in JRI funding in the 2021-23 biennium, which was provided to DOC for the operation of the county parole and probation. Douglas County has applied for and received JRI funds, however, the county uses those funds in other areas and not for parole and probation, so it does not impact DOC. With the extension of the JRI program, and assuming Linn County is able to continue to receive JRI funding in the future for parole and probation, there is not expected to be an impact to DOC. Absent the extension of the sunset, DOC would have increased General Fund costs to maintain parole and probation services for Linn County.

Other agencies

There is no fiscal impact for the Oregon Judicial Department or counties, though JRI grant funding currently supports county programs that would be impacted if the JRI program sunsets.

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