

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: SB 891 - MRA**

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:

Modifies provisions relating to Oregon Death with Dignity Act.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Secretary of State, Department of Justice, Judicial Department, Board of Nursing, Board of Pharmacy, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Medical Board

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

The measure refers for voters' approval modifications to the Oregon Death with Dignity Act, expanding the types of health care providers that are authorized to prescribe specified medication and reducing certain waiting periods from 15 days to 48 hours. The measure is effective January 1, 2024, and specified provisions apply to medications dispensed on or after the effective day of the measure.

Because the measure is referred to voters at the next regular general election, the fiscal impact to the Secretary of State's office is the state's portion of incremental costs incurred for an already-funded election. The Secretary of State prepares and distributes the voters' pamphlet and collects a filing fee for each argument submitted in support or opposition of a ballot measure. Typically, these filing fees cover slightly more than one-half of the cost of producing and mailing the voters' pamphlet. The remaining costs are paid by the General Fund. At this time, the fiscal impact to the Secretary of State's office is indeterminate because the cost of producing and distributing the voters' pamphlet is determined by the total number of initiatives and legislative referrals on the ballot, and by the number of arguments submitted in support or opposition of these ballot measures, and this information will not be known until after election filing deadlines. The Legislative Fiscal Office assumes that the Secretary will seek General Fund support from the Emergency Board or Legislative Assembly if the actual voters' pamphlet costs exceed currently budgeted election expenditures.

Under procedures established in ORS 250.125 and 250.127, a financial impact committee is created for each state measure submitted to the ballot through the initiative and referendum processes. For this reason, LFO generally does not include an estimate of the fiscal impact that would result if this measure were to be adopted by a vote of the people. However, previous fiscal impact statements prepared for this measure have shown no fiscal impact for the Oregon Judicial Department, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Justice, Oregon Medical Board, State Board of Pharmacy, or Oregon State Board of Nursing.