

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 951

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:

Provides that certified parole and probation officer employed by State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision qualifies as police officer under Public Employees Retirement System.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Public Employees Retirement System, Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

The measure allows certified parole and probation officers employed by the Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision (BPPPS) to qualify as a police officer under the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). The measure allows certified parole and probation officers who are employed by BPPPS on or after the effective date of the measure to be entitled to PERS benefits as a police officer for all service performed before as certified parole and probation officers for the BPPPS, on or after the effective date of measure. The measure is effective January 1, 2024.

PERS notes that an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) code related to the federal definition of police officers (IRC 415(b)) could limit the annual PERS pension benefit for BPPPS certified parole and probation officers employees if the employees are determined to qualify as police by the IRS.

The fiscal impact of the measure is indeterminate. The measure would result in incrementally higher retirement benefits for certified parole and probation officers as such employees move from General Service to a Police and Firefighter (P&F) benefit. BPPPS would pay the enhanced benefit through higher PERS P&F employer contribution rates, whose revenue source would be the General Fund. The fiscal impact depends upon the number of current and future certified parole and probation officers employed by BPPPS. Absent this data, PERS cannot calculate the impact on BPPPS P&F employer contribution rates. The measure would have a de minimis increase to the PERS Unfunded Actuarial Liability.

The measure would have a minimal fiscal impact on PERS operational costs.