### FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION



Legislative Fiscal Office 82<sup>nd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly 2024 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to the education of foster children; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Education, School Districts

### **Summary of Fiscal Impact**

2023-25 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Education		\$ -	\$ 130,942	\$ -	\$ 130,942	1	0.50
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130,942	\$ -	\$ 130,942	1	0.50

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Education		\$ -	\$ 255,664	\$ -	\$ 255,664	1	1.00
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 255,664	\$ -	\$ 255,664	1	1.00

- Directs the Department of Education to establish and administer a pilot program to provide support for foster child students.
- Directs the Department of Education to use moneys in the Statewide Education Initiatives Account to provide for the pilot program; however, the exact amount of Grant-in-Aid is indeterminate.

# **Measure Description**

HB 4084 directs the Department of Education (ODE) to establish and administer a pilot program to provide support for foster child students to improve their educational outcomes. Under the pilot program, ODE must select and provide grants to three public middle or high schools in Oregon with an emphasis on geographically diverse regions when selecting schools to participate in the pilot program. Schools participating in the pilot program must ensure that foster child students are provided access to an educational advocate for a foster child student who will provide guidance and support to the foster child student. ODE must use moneys in the Statewide Education Initiatives Account to provide funding for the pilot program.

# **Fiscal Analysis**

The measure is anticipated to have a fiscal impact of at least \$130,942 Other Funds in the 2023-25 biennium and \$255,663 Other Funds in the 2025-27 biennium. However, because the measure does not specify the amount of Grant-in-Aid that ODE will need to provide to the three public schools selected to participate in the pilot project, the fiscal impact is partially indeterminate.

### **Department of Education**

The measure is anticipated to a have fiscal impact on ODE of at least \$130,942 Other Funds in the 2023-25 biennium and \$255,663 Other Funds in the 2025-27 biennium. To implement and administer the pilot program, ODE would require one full-time, limited duration Program Analyst 2 (0.50 FTE in 2023-25) to develop, launch,

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and manage the program, conduct rulemaking, administer grants, oversee data collection, provide technical assistance to grant recipients, and prepare status reports to interim legislative committees.

The measure states that ODE must use monies from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account to provide funding to the pilot program, and that the pilot program must be considered a statewide education plan for purposes of ORS 327.254. The measure provides funds to ODE to contract with the three public schools participating in the pilot program for the schools to hire own educational advocate for foster child students. It should be noted, though, that at the district level, school districts already provide educational advocates for students under the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Although the amount of Grant-in-Aid provided to the three participating public schools is presently indeterminate, ODE will need an increase in Other Funds expenditure limitation to hire the limitation duration Program Analyst 2 position, which would be phased out at the end of the 2025-27 biennium.

## **School Districts**

The measure is anticipated to have no fiscal impact on most school districts in the state, as it will only apply to three individual public schools in different geographic regions of the state. Although the measure directs the three participating public schools to ensure that they provide educational advocates for foster child students, this fiscal impact statement assumes that the costs of hiring these educational advocates would be included as part of the Grant-in-Aid that ODE provides to the participating public schools. For that reason, the measure is anticipated to have only a minimal fiscal impact on the three participating public schools.

#### **Relevant Dates**

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

The State Board of Education within ODE must conduct rulemaking and ODE must distribute grants to three public schools selected to participate in the pilot program (Section 1 of the measure) by July 1, 2024.

ODE must submit two status reports concerning the pilot program to interim legislative committees related to education by September 15, 2025, and by September 15, 2027.

The pilot program (Section 1 of the measure) sunsets on June 30, 2027.

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