2007 Regular Legislative Session
FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION
Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office

MEASURE NUMBER: SB 420 **STATUS:** Original
SUBJECT: Creates a standing Environmental Justice Task Force
GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Office of the Governor, Natural Resource Agencies
PREPARED BY: Dallas Weyand
REVIEWED BY: Adrienne Sexton
DATE: April 24, 2007

		2007-2009		2009-2011
EXPENDITURES: Office of the Governor – General Fund				
Personal Services	$	35,755	$	47,337
Services and Supplies	$	11,561	$	15,784
Task Force travel and meeting expenses	$	24,000	$	24,000
	$	**71,316**	$	**87,121**
POSITIONS / FTE:				
Office Specialist 2		1 / 0.38		1 / 0.50

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2008

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET: This bill is not anticipated by the Governor's recommended budget.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANDATE: This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

COMMENTS: This bill creates a new Environmental Justice Task Force consisting of 12 members appointed by the Governor. Four members must be appointed from minority commissions and the remainder unspecified. The Task Force has a continuing existence, must meet at least four times a year, and submit annual reports to the Governor. The bill also requires each natural resource agency to create a citizen advocate position that is responsible for encouraging public participation and ensuring each agency considers environmental justice issues. Natural resource agencies have stated that these responsibilities would be accommodated by appointing existing staff as their citizen advocates.

The Governor's Office does not have existing staff resources to adequately staff the task force. It expects to hire a part-time Office Specialist 2 to handle travel arrangements, meeting preparation and minutes, and continuing office support to the task force. Additionally, the person would be responsible for creating and maintaining a website to keep members and the public up to date on task force issues and schedules. An existing policy staff would provide additional technical and policy assistance to the task force.