

2009 Regular Legislative Session
FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION
Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office

MEASURE NUMBER: SB 725 **STATUS:** Original
SUBJECT: Establishes Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care
GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Oregon Military Department, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Department of Human Services
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REVIEWED BY: John Borden, Steve Bender, John Britton
DATE: April 15, 2009 **<REVISED>**

	<u>2009-2011</u>	<u>2011-2013</u>
EXPENDITURES: See Analysis		

EFFECTIVE DATE: On Passage

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.

ANALYSIS: *Revised to clarify the Department of Human Services portion of the Fiscal Impact Statement.* This measure establishes five-member Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care to study the health care needs of women veterans, and report its findings and recommendations to the Governor by October 1, 2010. The Task Force must consult with federal, state, county and local entities including the Association of Oregon Counties and League of Oregon Cities. The bill stipulates that members of the task force serve as volunteers and are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement. The Oregon Military Department (OMD), the Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) are to provide staff support to the task force. The task force sunsets on the date of the convening of the next regular biennial legislative session.

The Department of Human Services estimates the impact on staffing to be a workload equivalent of an Operation and Policy Analyst 2 position (0.25 FTE and \$33,721 General Fund). Services and Supplies for this task force would be valued at \$10,854 General Fund. This amount includes computers and facilities expenses for the position as well as incidental costs for the task force such as meeting expenses, photocopies and production of the final report.

OMD and ODVA also report that passage of this bill will have a minimal impact. Current staff would be assigned to the task force. Services and supplies for the stakeholder outreach, research and reporting requirements of this bill will be absorbed by the agencies with existing resources.

Overall, this measure has a minimal fiscal impact. Each agency would have to re-prioritize duties and responsibilities of existing staff and reallocate resources to staff the task force and for incidental costs such as photocopies and production of the final report. The decision to absorb costs represents a decision to move funds from an existing statutory requirement or priority to a different priority based solely at the discretion of agency staff. DHS may require a budget adjustment by the current legislature, the Emergency Board, or a future legislature, if the Department's budgeted resources prove insufficient to cover the actual cost of this measure.

House Bill 2718 is similar to this bill.