FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure Description:

Permits certain counties to use federal forest reserve moneys in county road funds for law enforcement purposes if sufficient amount of federal moneys is received by county.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Counties

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Please see analysis

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:

The measure does not appear to have a direct fiscal impact to counties; however it does create exemptions to statute for financing certain county operations. Existing law allows for two counties (Lane and Douglas) to set aside the distribution formula of monies received by counties from federal forest reserves to road and school funds and also set aside the statute limiting the uses of monies in the road fund for the purpose of patrolling the roads by law enforcement. This measure expands that ability to all counties in Oregon so long as the year for which those expenditures are made meets the ratio requirements of federal forest reserve funds received to total county general fund receipts. The measure goes on to apply these provisions to any year before, on, or after the effective date of the bill and removes the provisions applying to Land and Douglas Counties limiting them to monies received on or before 9/27/2007. For counties with funding available, the bill simply creates a funding flexibility for these law enforcement activities in the future, but there is the potential that some counties would choose to reduce the amount of monies being directed to school funds to provide for it. Allowing the provisions to apply to past years may allow counties to back-fill prior general fund expenditures for the patrolling activities from the road fund as well. There is not readily available information to determine a fiscal impact, if any, from those provisions.