Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2013 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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## **Measure Description:**

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Health Authority for nutrition programs for eligible individuals through Women, Infants and Children Program.

## Government Unit(s) Affected:

**Oregon Health Authority** 

## 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:

House Bill 2921 appropriates \$500,000 General Funds to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for the purpose of providing fresh Oregon-grown fruits, vegetables and cut herbs from farmers' markets and roadside stands to eligible individuals through the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program. The bill contains an emergency clause and is effective July 1, 2013.

Currently, the state's WIC Farm Direct Nutrition Program, administered by Public Health, is funded primarily by a federal grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Recipients receive checks to spend directly with local farmers who grow fruits and vegetables. The program is projected to serve 21,500 women, infants and children in 2013. An additional \$500,000 in funding would serve an additional 21,304 WIC clients. OHA estimates that 85% or \$426,076 of the funds will go directly to WIC clients with the remaining 15% or \$73,924 funding the costs of printing and mailing the checks. Staffing expenses are funded by the USDA grant and would not be charged to this revenue source.

This bill requires budgetary action for the appropriation of the \$500,000 General Fund for the 2013-15 biennium.