Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Oregon Health Authority for Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program and Women, Infants and Children Farm Direct Nutrition Program.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Emergency Board

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2015-17 Biennium	2017-19 Biennium
Services & Supplies	\$41,230	\$0
Special Payments	258,770	0
Total General Fund	\$300,000	\$0

Summary of Expenditure Impact – Emergency Board Special Purpose Appropriation:

	2015-17 Biennium	2017-19 Biennium
General Fund	200,000	0
Total General Fund	\$200,000	\$0

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:

Senate Bill 700 appropriates the following amounts to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for the 2015-17 biennium to provide assistance for the purchase of fresh, unprocessed, locally-grown fruits, vegetables and herbs from farmers' markets and roadside stands:

- \$200,000 General Fund under the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program (FDNP).
- \$100,000 General Fund under the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) FDNP.

In addition, the bill includes a special purpose appropriation set aside of \$200,000 for the 2015 Emergency Board to be allocated to OHA for (1) matching funds for a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); (2) expansion of FDNP; or (3) any other federal or state agency for similar funding. The bill specifies that if any of the moneys appropriated to the Emergency Board are not allocated by December 1, 2016, the remaining moneys become available for any purpose for which the Emergency Board may allocate funds. The bill contains an emergency clause and is effective on passage.

Oregon's Senior FDNP, administered by OHA's Public Health Division, is funded primarily by a federal grant from the USDA. The program provides eligible seniors an additional source of nutritious food and education on selecting and preparing fresh produce. SFDNP recipients receive checks to spend directly with local farmers who grow fruits and vegetables. With current funding, WC FDNP serves 20% of eligible WIC women and children, and Senior FDNP serves 60% of eligible low income seniors.

During the 2013-15 biennium, the Legislature appropriated \$100,000 for WIC Farmers' Market clients and \$200,000 for senior Farmers' Market clients. These funds were phased out and are currently not part of the 2015-17 Governor's Budget. OHA estimates that the additional \$300,000 General Fund would serve 4,211 additional WIC clients and an additional 5,455 seniors. Approximately 86% of these funds (\$258,770) would go directly to the eligible clients with the remaining amount (\$41,230) covering postage, printing and mailing costs. Staffing expenses are funded by the USDA grant, and would not be charged to this revenue source.

If OHA is allocated the \$200,000 special purpose appropriation set aside, and this funding is shared 50% to WIC SFDNP and 50% to Senior SFDNP, approximately 4,211 additional WIC clients and 2,272 additional seniors could be served.

This bill requires budgetary action for the appropriation of General Fund.