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

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Measure Description:

Establishes a task force to study the training of direct care staff who support individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS), Legislative Assembly

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 2756 establishes a 32-member task force to study the training of direct care staff who support individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. The task force is required to develop recommendations for a competency-based training and credentialing curriculum. The bill requires the task force to submit a report to an interim committee of the legislature by December 1, 2015. The task force sunsets on December 31, 2015. The bill contains an emergency clause, and is effective on passage.

Department of Human Services (DHS)

DHS is required to provide staff support and to the task force, and reimburse the eleven non-Legislative members of the task force for travel and other expenses incurred in their performance of task force duties out of funds appropriated to DHS for purposes of the task force. However, the bill does not appropriate additional funds to DHS, which would seem to suggest that expenses for reimbursement and staff support are intended to come from its Legislatively Approved Budget, which does not contemplate expenditures specifically for this purpose.

The bill allows the task force to meet and times and places specified by the call of the chair or a majority of the voting members. The fiscal impact of this bill on DHS is indeterminate depending on the scope of work undertaken by the task force, as well as the number of meetings, and geographic location of task force members. DHS estimates the agency would need a potential \$52,864 Total Funds to reimburse task force members.

Legislative Assembly

Two members of the task force will be Legislative members who are entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. Although the 2015-17 Legislative Branch budget contains funds allocated for interim committee and task force, if the work required by this task force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2015-17 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required.