FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Prohibits insurers from reducing reimbursement paid to health care providers by more than five percent for more than two consecutive years, and prohibits further reductions without approval of Department of Consumer and Business Services.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Legislative Assembly, Legislative Administration Committee (LAC), Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS)

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 3427 creates the 16-member Task Force on Mental Health Care Reimbursement charged with studying and making recommendations for a payment structure for the reimbursement by insurers of licensed marriage and family therapist, family physicians, psychiatrists and psychologists. Committee Services is required to provide staff and technical support to the task force. The bill requires the task force to submit a report to the legislature during the 2016 and 2017 regular sessions. The bill does not contain a sunset date. The bill contains an emergency clause, and takes effect on passage.

Legislative Assembly

Four 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.

Legislative Administration Committee (LAC)

The bill requires Committee Services to provide staff and technical support to the task force, and to reimburse task force members for travel and other expenses. 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.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS)

OHA and DCBS expect to play a role in furnishing the task force with existing available data, information, advice, and other support. The fiscal impact of this bill on these agencies will depend on what kind of assistance the task force requests from each agency.