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

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Prepared by:	John Terpening
Reviewed by:	Krista McDowell, Daron Hill, John Borden, Steve Bender
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Measure Description:

Establishes Task Force on Immigration Consultant Fraud.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Advocacy Commissions Office, Legislative Assembly, Department of Justice, Secretary of State

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 3525 establishes the 12-member Task Force on Immigration Consultant Fraud charged with studying violations of the prohibition on acting as an immigration consultant without a bar license and the practice of immigration consultants attempting to obstruct persons from reporting violations of this prohibition. The task force is required to submit a report to an interim Legislative committee by September 15, 2015. The task force sunsets on December 31, 2016.

The bill requires the Oregon Advocacy Commission Office (OACO) to provide staff support to the task force, and reimburse the 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 OACO purposes of the task force. However, the bill does not appropriate additional funds to OACO, so expenses for reimbursement and staff support are assumed to be absorbed within the parameters of the OACO Legislatively Approved Budget. The bill allows the task force to meet at times and places specified by the call of the chair or a majority of the voting members.

OACO assumes there will be three meetings of the task force between passage and the September 15th reporting date to the Legislature. Based on those assumptions, OACO anticipates the fiscal impact of this bill to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing resources. OACO notes that further duties beyond the reporting date are not specified in the measure.

There is a minimal fiscal to the Legislative Assembly, Secretary of State, Department of Justice, or other state agencies represented on the task force.