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

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Prepared by:	Kim To
Reviewed by:	Linda Ames
Date:	5/29/2015

Measure Description:

Approves certain new or increased fees adopted by Oregon Health Authority.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

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 5527 is the fee ratification bill for the Oregon Health Authority. It contains fees that were administratively adopted by the Oregon Health Authority and approved by the Department of Administrative Services during the interim.

ORS 291.055(1)(e) mandates that all new state agency fees or fee increases adopted between regular sessions of the Legislative Assembly are rescinded upon adjournment of the next regular session unless authorized by enabling legislation setting forth the approved fees.

Fees were increased in the Radiation Protection program for radioactive materials licensing. This program issues licenses to people who use radioactive materials in hospitals, universities, and industry. The program also registers certain types of radioactive materials used in industry and clinics. The fee increases are expected to generate a total of \$344,336 in Other Fund revenues during the 2015-17 biennium. The expenditure limitation is included in Package 408 in the agency's budget. Without these fee increases, the agency will need to reduce staff by three positions.

Fees were increased in the Public Health Laboratory to increase the newborn screening test kit fee to cover the costs of adding severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID) to the screening panel. Early identification of SCID through screening can make possible life-saving interventions before infections occur. The fee changes are expected to generate a total of \$1,092,000 in Other Fund revenues during the 2015-17 biennium. Package 408 contains the expenditure limitation. Without the fee changes, the agency would need to stop offering the screening.