

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 3170 - MRC

79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official***

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Measure Description:

Extends collective bargaining rights to certain faculty members of public university with academic rather than administrative focus.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Employment Relations Board, Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU), public universities listed in ORS 352.002

Analysis:

The bill would extend the right of certain faculty members, at public universities and Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU), to collectively bargain. The Employment Relations Board may not designate as appropriate a bargaining unit that includes a non-supervisory faculty member who supervises one or more other faculty members, nor a faculty member who is supervised by the non-supervisory faculty member. Labor organizations are exempted from providing services to faculty members who do not provide their written consent for representation. Faculty members who do not provide written consent to labor organizations for representation are exempted from paying dues, fees, assessments, or other charges regularly required of members.

At this time, the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) believes that the potential ramifications of this measure cannot be quantified with a reasonable amount of certainty by public universities and OHSU; therefore the fiscal impact cannot be determined. It is unclear how the results of collective bargaining would impact faculty members newly eligible to join a union as a result of this legislation. An increase in faculty union members could result in an increased administrative burden to the universities and OHSU as well as increased personal services costs for higher wages and more comprehensive benefits.

The fiscal impact to the Employment Relations Board, related to changing policies and procedures for processing representation petitions, is anticipated to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgetary parameters.