FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Prepared by:	Meg Bushman-Reinhold
Reviewed by:	Gregory Jolivette, Julie Neburka, Ken Rocco
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Measure Description:

Expands membership of Justice Reinvestment Program Grant Review Committee.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Counties, Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), Oregon Judicial Department (OJD), Department of Corrections (DOC)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Analysis:

This bill expands membership of the Justice Reinvestment Grant Review Committee from 5 to 7 members with the additional 2 members coming from underserved communities. For counties receiving Justice Reinvestment Act grants, the Criminal Justice Commission is directed to specifically assess the extent to which each county is reducing utilization of imprisonment in the Department of Corrections (DOC) facilities by offenders convicted of certain felonies and adopt rules specifying how the utilization reduction is measured.

The bill also changes the process of review and approval of grant applications. For counties that do not reduce utilization of imprisonment for certain felonies, the commission may reduce or eliminate the county's grant and award that money to other counties, with preference to counties in historically underserved communities.

The bill requires the creation of an advisory committee for the Task Force on Public Safety; changes the composition of the Task Force on Public Safety; and adds additional duties to the Task Force.

Finally, CJC is required to report to the Governor and to the subcommittee of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means with authority over the budget of the commission with recommendations from the advisory committee on how the commission can increase equity in the allocation of public safety funds with a particular focus on the Justice Reinvestment Grant Program. This report is due by September 15, 2020.

Criminal Justice Commission

The Criminal Justice Commission will contract with the University of Oregon to assist with the report to the Legislature and the Governor on increasing equity in the Justice Reinvestment Grant Program. The expected cost for this contract is \$110,000 General Fund. CJC can absorb the remainder of the changes with existing resources.

Department of Corrections

The Department of Corrections will have a fiscal impact under this bill if any counties lose grant funding, and that loss of revenue results in an increase in recidivism to the Department of Corrections from residents of that county. The fiscal impact to the Department of Corrections is indeterminate.

Oregon Judicial Department

This bill requires the Chief Justice to appoint a judge to serve as a non-voting member of the Justice Reinvestment Grant Review Committee. This bill will have a minimal fiscal impact to the Oregon Judicial Department.