

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 777 - 4

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

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

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Measure Description:

Establishes Task Force on Prison Education.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO), Legislative Assembly, Department of Corrections (DOC), Office of the Governor, Employment Department (OED), Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Community Colleges, Public Universities

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

SB 777 with the -4 amendment establishes the 16-member Task Force on Prison Education charged with studying existing prisoner education programs, including space and budget limitations, and exploring options and opportunities for expanding, updating, and improving such programs. The Legislative Policy and Research Director is directed to provide staffing to the task force. The task force is required to submit a report to the Legislature by September 15, 2020. Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislature serve as volunteers and are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement. The task force sunsets on December 31, 2020.

Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO)

The measure requires LPRO to provide staff support to the task force. The 2019-21 Legislative Branch budget should contain funds allocated for LPRO support of interim committees and task forces.

Legislative Assembly

The measure specifies that non-legislative members of the task force serve as volunteers and are not entitled to compensation and reimbursement. However, four members of the task force will be legislative members who are entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. The estimated per diem and travel reimbursement cost for the four legislative members is \$841 per day. This amount includes the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax and assumes per diem remains at \$149 per day, and the average mileage of 90 miles remains at the current rate of \$0.58 per mile. Although the 2019-21 Legislative Assembly 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 2019-21 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required. The task force would not incur additional costs to the Legislative Assembly budget if the meetings are held at the Capitol building during Legislative Session, Task force, or Legislative Days.

The fiscal impact of this measure to the Office of the Governor, the Oregon Employment Department, community colleges, universities, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, the Oregon Corrections Enterprises, and the Department of Corrections is anticipated to be minimal. This fiscal impact statement assumes that these entities will use existing staff and resources to serve on the task force and to furnish the task force with existing available data, information, advice, and other support.