

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

Measure: HB 2011 - A

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

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Measure Description:

Requires specified professional regulatory boards to require persons authorized to practice professions regulated by board to complete cultural competency continuing education.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (BSPA), Board of Massage Therapists, Occupational Therapy Licensing Board (OTLB), Oregon Board of Medical Imaging (OBMI), Oregon Board of Psychology, Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN), Board of Licensed Social Workers (BLSW), Department of Human Services (DHS), Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD), Oregon Board of Pharmacy (OBOP), Oregon Medical Board (OMB), Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists (BLPCT), Board of Optometry, Oregon Board of Chiropractic Examiners (OBCE), Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine (OBNM), Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Physical Therapist Licensing Board

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

HB 2011 - A provides that licensees of certain health licensing boards, emergency medical service providers licensed by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), and lactation consultants licensed by the Health Licensing Office within OHA be required to take cultural competency education courses as a prerequisite for licensure. Affected boards are directed to adopt rules around cultural competency education, which licensees must complete every other time they renew their license. Boards are to encourage their licensees to take cultural competency courses approved by OHA, but licensees may take other available courses for continuing education credit. Boards are also directed to consider available cultural competency courses when determining the number of required continuing education credits.

This measure takes effect July 1, 2021, so there are no or minimal fiscal impacts anticipated for affected agencies in the 2019-21 biennium. In 2021-23, there could be a minimal fiscal impact related to this bill for several of the affected boards. Each board has a different licensing process and implementation of this measure could require boards to change how they review qualifications for licensure and audit continuing education requirements. Boards may also need to make changes to their IT systems. These costs are anticipated to be absorbable.

There is also likely to be an indeterminate fiscal impact for the Department of Human Services (DHS) Oregon Home Care Commission (OHCC). The current collective bargaining agreement requires DHS to pay Home Care and Personal Support Workers an hourly stipend for attending required training. The - A does provide flexibility for OHCC to set the number of credits required to be completed, which could mitigate potential stipend expenses. DHS estimates that stipends paid for cultural competency continuing education classes could cost \$1.4 million General Fund for the 2021-23 biennium, based on a three-hour class. Other factors affecting potential costs include the number of active workers, timing of renewals, stipend amounts, and whether cultural competency content is considered within other work DHS is completing to implement training standards mandated by HB 1534 (2018). These standards go into effect on January 1, 2020.