FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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

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Measure Description:

Specifies certain presumptions as to cause of death, disability or impairment of health of fire service professional, public safety personnel or employee of public or private safety agency with duties related to firefighting, police, ambulance or emergency medical services in claim for benefits related to occupational disease under workers' compensation law.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Cities, Counties, Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), Department of Corrections (DOC), Department of Forestry (ODF), Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), Oregon Judicial Department (OJD), Oregon State Police (OSP), Oregon Youth Authority (OYA)

Analysis:

This fiscal impact statement is submitted to transmit the measure from the House Committee on Business and Labor to the House Committee on Rules.

The measure would deem the death, disability, or impairment of police, firefighters, paramedics, ambulance drivers, emergency medical technicians, etc., to be a compensable occupational disease under specific circumstances. It would establish a rebuttable presumption that a claimant's death, disability, or impairment resulted from the claimant's job, which could be overcome only by a showing of clear and convincing medical evidence to the contrary. Denial of a claim for compensation would have to demonstrate by clear and convincing medical evidence that the death, disability, or impairment was unrelated to the claimant's job. Any city providing a comparable disability or retirement system would be required to apply this rebuttable presumption standard. The measure would apply to all claims that occur or are pending on or after the effective date of the measure.

The measure is anticipated to have an impact on Cities, Counties, the Department of Administrative Services, the Department of Consumer and Business Services, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Forestry, Oregon Health & Science University, the Oregon Judicial Department, the Oregon State Police, and the Oregon Youth Authority.

A more complete fiscal analysis on the measure will be prepared as the measure is considered in the House Committee on Rules.

Further Analysis Required