FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2020 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

Prepared by:	Kim To
Reviewed by:	Theresa McHugh, Doug Wilson
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Measure Description:

Establishes subject-matter credit requirements that students must satisfy in order to receive high school diploma.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO), Legislative Assembly, Department of Education (ODE), School Districts, Education Service Districts (ESDs)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

SB 1572 establishes the 19-member Task Force on High School Diploma Requirements charged with reviewing requirements for a high school diploma in Oregon and examining alternative pathways for receiving a high school diploma in other states in order to make recommendations for changes. The Task Force must submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by January 15, 2021. The Task Force sunsets on June 30, 2021.

Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO)

The bill 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 bill 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. Assuming 11 Task Force meetings, the estimated per diem and travel reimbursement cost for the four legislative members is expected to be approximately \$10,100 General Fund. This amount includes the Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) tax, assumes per diem remains at \$151 per day, and the average mileage of 90 miles at the current rate of \$0.58 per mile. Although the 2019-21 Legislative Assembly budget includes 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.

School Districts

The fiscal impact of this bill on school districts is indeterminate, but anticipated to be minimal, depending on the scope of work undertaken, as well as the number of meetings scheduled by the Task Force. The bill requires the Task Force to meet at least once a month. Task Force membership must include an administrator of a public school and a public school teacher. Although the bill specifies that all Task Force members serve as volunteers and are not entitled to compensation and reimbursement, note that there could be a cost to allowing a teacher time away from work to attend Task Force meetings. For example, a school may need to hire a substitute teacher to cover the teacher's time away from class to attend Task Force meetings. In addition, district staff time may be

needed to gather data and provide analysis to support the work of the Task Force. The fiscal impact of this work will depend on what kind of information and analysis the Task Force requests from school districts.

Department of Education (ODE), Education Service Districts (ESDs)

The fiscal impact of this bill on ODE and ESDs is minimal. This analysis assumes ODE and ESDs will reprioritize duties to attend meetings and use existing staff and resources to furnish the Task Force with existing available data, information, advice, and other support.