

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2826

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official***

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Measure Description:

Modifies allocation formula for grants to children's advocacy centers.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Human Services (DHS), Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Oregon Judicial Department (OJD), Counties, Department of Education (ODE)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

HB 2826 modifies the allocation formula for grants to children's advocacy centers. This measure establishes the Child Abuse Assessment Account in the Oregon State Treasury, with moneys in the account continuously appropriated to the Department of Justice (DOJ) for the purpose of providing support for children's advocacy centers. This measure also modifies the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Account, to clarify that this account may include moneys contributed to the Advisory Council on Child Abuse Assessment, and any funds the Legislative Assembly appropriates, allocates, deposits, or transfers to the account. This measure further requires that funds in the Criminal Injuries Compensation Account that were allocated for the purpose of reimbursing a children's advocacy center for services provided under ORS 147.390, and remain unexpended at the end of the biennium, must also be deposited in one of the aforementioned accounts.

Under this measure, the administrator of the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program is directed to develop and administer a grant program using funding from the newly- created Child Abuse Assessment Account. This grant program is separate from an existing grant program that is funded by the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Account. The new grant program is to allocate funds to eligible children's advocacy centers using the same or a similar formula as the one used by the Attorney General for equitable distribution of victims' assistance program funding. Grant funding decisions must consider the size of the children's advocacy center service area and the associated increased cost of equitably providing services to all victims in that area. Allocated funds may not be used to replace funds previously allocated by a county for a children's advocacy center.

This measure appropriates \$6.0 million General Fund to DOJ for deposit in the Child Abuse Assessment Account, and establishes a limit of \$6.0 million in expenditures for the 2021-23 biennium for the new grant program. DOJ reports having no ending balances in this account, historically, and does not anticipate having a residual balance to transfer in the future. DOJ anticipates that they will need one limited-duration, part-time Program Analyst 3 (0.50 FTE in 2021-23) who will assist the Crime Victims and Survivor Services Division with drafting grant applications, grant agreements, and program monitoring. The total cost of this position \$135,823 General Fund (\$101,448 Personal Services, \$34,375 Services and Supplies). It is not clear from the text of this measure whether this position may be paid for from funds appropriated to the Department for the grant program, or if an additional General Fund appropriation is needed to pay for the costs of the new position.

There is no fiscal impact from this measure for the Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Judicial Department, Counties, or the Department of Education.