

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 707

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:

Directs Department of Human Services to provide certain notices to children and wards whom department placed in out-of-state residential facilities between January 1, 2016, and June 30, 2020, and to provide representatives of children and wards with certain documentation and information.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Human Services (DHS)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

SB 707 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS), by January 1, 2022, to contact each child and ward who the Department placed in an out-of-state residential facility between January 1, 2016 and June 30, 2020. Notices must be provided to children and children’s representatives informing of their right to seek civil remedy if there is a belief they were treated negligently. Additionally, DHS is required to share all related incident reports, injuries and abuse allegations related to each child with the child and their representative. In addition, DHS must make reasonable efforts to obtain written, video, audio and visual records of any abuse allegations or investigation related to the child in care while placed in an out-of-state facility. This measure takes effect upon passage, or July 1, 2021. The measure is repealed on January 2, 2022.

Although DHS Child Welfare would absorb some costs to implement the requirements of this measure through prioritization of duties for current staff, the Department would need to hire two limited duration Operation Specialist 1 positions (1.50 FTE) to retrieve, review, and scan an estimated 150 records averaging 500 pages each.

DHS estimates the 2021-23 cost of these two limited duration positions (1.5 FTE) to be \$204,234 Total Funds [\$100,585 General Fund + \$15,888 Other Funds + \$87,761 Federal Funds].The fund split is based on the DHS 2019-21 cost allocation for shares services of 50% General Fund, 7% Other Funds and 43% Federal Funds.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of budgetary impact and position authority.