

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: HB 2547 - A

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

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Date: April 5, 2021

Measure Description:

Directs State Court Administrator to study methods and make recommendations to improve and increase trauma-informed procedural justice.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Judicial Department (OJD)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

HB 2547 directs the State Court Administrator of the Oregon Judicial Department to study methods and make recommendations to improve and increase trauma-informed procedural justice. The measure further directs the agency to report the results of the study to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2023. The measure sunsets on January 2, 2024.

While the measure is silent on how the study should be conducted, the Department assumes that the study will be extensive and include areas of family law, juvenile dependency, juvenile delinquency, criminal, small claims, eviction cases, and all types of civil cases. This work may include the need to form a committee or workgroup to help develop research guidance, a review of national research and trends, and travel to courts across the state. Given this approach, the Department anticipates needing three additional staff (one attorney and two analysts) to complete the work, at an estimated cost of \$783,511 General Fund in the 2021-2023 biennium. The measure indicates that completion of the work will occur during the 2023-25 biennium; the agency estimates additional costs of \$66,974 General Fund in the 2023-2025.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its budgetary impact on the State's General Fund.