

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2738 - A

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:

Requires the Department of Administrative Services to contract with a nongovernmental statewide coordinating entity to oversee the Court Appointed Special Advocate Volunteer Program and services. Appropriates moneys to the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund for the CASA Volunteer Program and for distribution to the Oregon CASA Network for court appointed special advocate training programs.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Administrative Services (DAS)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

Department of Administrative Services

	2021-23 Biennium	2023-25 Biennium
General Fund	\$5,920,000	\$0
Total Funds	\$5,920,000	\$0

Analysis:

House Bill 2738, A-engrossed, replaces the introduced version. The measure requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS or the department) to contract with a nongovernmental statewide coordinating entity to oversee the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Volunteer Program and services. It directs DAS to disburse and expend moneys in the CASA Fund to the statewide coordinating entity contracted with; however, no moneys may distributed to a CASA Volunteer Program unless the program has submitted to the statewide coordinating entity the program’s annual diversity, equity, inclusion and accountability plan. The measure requires DAS to ensure that CASA Volunteer Programs comply with the state standards and practices and with the National CASA Association’s standards and practices and perform the duties and functions under the Oregon Juvenile Code. It requires the statewide coordinating entity that oversees the CASA Volunteer Programs to ensure that each program uses metrics to track volunteer demographics and a diversity recruitment plan; adopts a mission and values statement; regularly reviews and updates its plans and policies consistent with National CASA Association’s standards; conducts an annual financial audit or review; and has a sustainable growth plan. The statewide coordinating entity shall also develop and provide training and education for court appointed special advocates and employees and other volunteers in CASA Volunteer Programs. Each CASA Volunteer Program may report biannually to committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the provision of court appointed special advocate programs.

The measure appropriates \$5.9 million General Fund to DAS in the 2021-23 biennium for the CASA programs. It includes an appropriation of \$5,670,000 to the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund for the CASA Volunteer Program and \$250,000 to the Court Appointed Special Advocate Fund for distribution to the Oregon CASA Network to implement a statewide distance training and learning program for the CASA Volunteer Program. The measure takes effect on passage.

The measure would make the Oregon CASA Network a pass-through entity to which DAS transfers funds. DAS would contract with the Oregon CASA Network and distribute the funds associated with the CASA programs to Oregon CASA Network as the contracted entity. Although DAS would incur a minimal fiscal impact in distributing these funds, the measure would nevertheless have a fiscal impact on DAS because it appropriates General Fund for the department to distribute.

The measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its impact on the State's General Fund, DAS' biennial budget, and the CASA Volunteer Program.