

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

**Measure: SB 1578 A**

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2022 Regular Session  
Legislative Fiscal Office

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

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**Measure Description:**

Directs State Board of Education to adopt by rule procedures for receiving and investigating complaints of violations of safety, discrimination and welfare laws.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

School Districts, Department of Education (ODE)

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

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

**Summary of Expenditure Impact:**

|                    | <b>2021-23 Biennium</b> | <b>2023-25 Biennium</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| General Fund       | \$3,216,089             | \$6,619,781             |
| <b>Total Funds</b> | <b>\$3,216,089</b>      | <b>\$6,619,781</b>      |
| Positions          | 21                      | 21                      |
| FTE                | 9.94                    | 21.00                   |

**Analysis:** The measure directs the State Board of Education to adopt by rule procedures for receiving and investigating complaints of violations of safety, discrimination, and welfare laws. In addition, the measure gives the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) the power to investigate allegations and enforce rulings, creates new requirements for school district complaint procedures, creates two parent advocate positions within ODE, allows the agency to withhold State School Funds (SSF) if a district or Educational Service District (ESD) does not comply with the corrective action under certain circumstances, and outlines various deadlines.

ODE estimates that it will require 21 positions to fully staff the new program.

- Two Principal Executive Manager F positions (1.00 FTE) to hire and manage the team and assign and review work.
- One Operations and Policy Analyst 4 position (0.50 FTE) for drafting rules, process improvement, and working with school districts to support program implementation.
- Three Operations and Policy Analyst 3 positions (1.34 FTE) for drafting preliminary and final orders, working with investigators to establish the scope of investigations, drafting administrative rules, and drafting guidance documents.
- Two Program Analyst 4 positions (0.84 FTE) for training, technical assistance, providing support to school districts and ESD’s, and providing mediation or conciliation support after final orders.
- Four Investigator 2 positions (1.84 FTE) for pre-intake investigation and complaint investigations.
- Two Administrative Specialist 2 positions (1.00 FTE) for intake and case management and administrative support for the investigators.
- Two Executive Support Specialist 2 positions (0.92 FTE) for administrative support for management.
- One Office Specialist position (0.42 FTE) to provide administrative support for the Complaints and Appeals Team.
- Two Program Analyst 1 positions (1.00 FTE) as parent advocates.

- One Human Resource Analyst 2 position (0.58 FTE) to facilitate hiring.
- One Fiscal Analyst 2 positions (0.50 FTE) to facilitate and monitor the budget for the program and provide budget consultation for fiscal issues.

ODE estimates that there could be between 8,000 and 11,000 complaints per year, but this a very rough estimate because the measure expands the types of complaints the Department must take. Under current law, complainants must first file complaints with their local school district, which has three opportunities to resolve the complaint before appeal to the Department of Education. While ODE tracks the number of appeals it receives, it does not have a way to know the total number of complaints received at the district level.

School Districts anticipate a fiscal impact with the new requirements, but the scope and magnitude is indeterminate at this time.

The Legislative Fiscal Office notes that staffing levels are determined through the Joint Committee on Ways and Means budget process and any needed position authority is included in a budget report rather than statute. Upon subsequent referral, the Joint Committee on Ways and Means will evaluate agency staffing and financial resources in light of the anticipated fiscal impact of the measure to determine whether position authority contemplated in section 9 is necessary.