

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION****Measure: SB 510**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

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

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Date: February 17, 2023

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**Measure Description:**

Directs Public Records Advocate to estimate biennial costs to carry out duties of advocate and to allocate and assess costs among public bodies of state government.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Legislative Fiscal Office, Department of Administrative Services, Public Records Advocate

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal - See explanatory analysis.

**Analysis:**

SB 510 directs the Office of the Public Records Advocate (OPRA) to estimate the office's expenses for the upcoming biennium on or before January 1 preceding the start of the biennium. The Advocate is to submit this estimate to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) and is to charge each public body in state government an assessment to pay for these costs. Each public body is to pay the assessment as an administrative expense from funds or appropriations available to the public body in the same manner as other claims against the public body are paid. The Advocate is to adopt rules with a method for allocating and collecting the assessment. This measure takes effect on the 91st day after the Legislature adjourns sine die.

Passage of this bill is anticipated to have a minimal fiscal impact on OPRA, DAS, and LFO. In the 2021-23 legislatively approved budget, OPRA was housed within DAS, and 2023-2025 will be the first biennium the Office operates as a stand-alone agency. The 2023-25 Governor's budget for OPRA is funded from an assessment on state agencies. This bill will codify the assessment process.

OPRA will use existing staff and resources to work with DAS and LFO to estimate biennial costs for agency operations and submit these estimates to DAS and LFO as part of the biennial budget development process. Because OPRA is already funded by the assessment that DAS charges to all state agencies, this measure is not anticipated to have a budgetary impact for state agencies that will be charged the OPRA assessment.

While this measure is anticipated to have no or minimal budgetary impact, it does establish a method of funding for OPRA. For this reason, the measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration.