

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: HB 2991 - A**

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: April 5, 2023

Measure Description:

Directs the Department of Early Learning and Care to commission an independent study regarding barriers to attaining a high-quality early childhood workforce.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Early Learning and Care

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

House Bill 2991 A-engrossed appropriates \$300,000 General Fund to the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC) to commission an independent study that identifies barriers to a high-quality early childhood workforce and provides guidance for future professional development specific to the needs of the early childhood workforce in Oregon. In selecting an entity to conduct the study, DELIC must prioritize either a community-based nonprofit organization or a firm that has received certification issued by the Certification Office for Business Inclusion and Diversity. The study must, among other things, examine barriers and efficiencies within the existing early childhood workforce registry and explore career pathways developed or implemented by entities that have successfully reduced inefficiencies and barriers for individuals seeking apprenticeships, on-the-job training and other professional training that led to employment in occupations related to early childhood. DELIC must convene a stakeholder group to review the findings from the study and provide recommendations. DELIC must also submit two reports to legislative committees related to early learning and care by September 15, 2024, and December 31, 2024, respectively. The measure specifies the content of certain administrative rules that address barriers to entry into the early childhood work force. The measure takes effect on passage and is repealed on January 2, 2025.

Since the measure appropriates \$300,000 General Fund to DELIC in the 2023-25 biennium, it would have a fiscal impact on DELIC. However, it should be noted that because DELIC anticipates increasing its annual contract with the Oregon Center for Career Development to conduct the study and submit the required reports, the estimated fiscal impact to DELIC may be greater than \$300,000 General Fund in 2023-25. DELIC may need to request additional resources as part of its 2023-25 legislatively adopted budget to ensure it is able to conduct the study and submit the reports.

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