

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: HB 2235 - A**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

Prepared by: MaryMichelle Sosne

Reviewed by: Steve Robbins

Date: 4/5/2023

Measure Description:

Requires Oregon Health Authority to study access to behavioral health treatment in rural and medically underserved areas of this state.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Analysis:

HB 2235-A replaces the introduced measure. The measure requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to convene a work group to study and make recommendations on the major barriers to recruitment and retention in Oregon's behavioral health system. On or before January 15, 2025, OHA must report initial recommendations to the interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee to inform OHA's budget for the 2025-27 biennium. By December 1, 2025, OHA is required to submit its final report with recommendations to the interim subcommittee, as well as the committees related to health care. The work group is dissolved as of January 2, 2026. The measure declares an emergency and is effective on passage.

The Legislative Fiscal Office anticipates the measure will have a minimal impact on OHA's budget. Given the scope of work and timelines defined in the measure, the agency is expected to leverage existing staff to assist with recruitment of work group members, facilitate deliverables, and provide administrative support and subject matter expertise to the work group. If the requirements of the work group merit a level of support that requires OHA to hire limited duration staff or pay for contractual support, the agency may incur a net fiscal impact greater than minimal.