

**HB 2696 A BUDGET REPORT and MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Rayfield

**Joint Committee On Ways and Means**

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**Action Date:** 06/02/23

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**House Vote**

**Yeas:** 12 - Breese-Iverson, Cate, Evans, Gomberg, Holvey, Lewis, McLain, Pham K, Reschke, Sanchez, Smith G, Valderrama

**Senate Vote**

**Yeas:** 10 - Anderson, Campos, Dembrow, Findley, Frederick, Gelser Blouin, Hansell, Knopp, Sollman, Steiner

**Exc:** 1 - Girod

**Prepared By:** Patrick Heath, Department of Administrative Services

**Reviewed By:** MaryMichelle Sosne, Legislative Fiscal Office

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**Oregon Health Authority**

**2023-25**

**Budget Summary\***

	2021-23 Legislatively Approved Budget <sup>(1)</sup>	2023-25 Current Service Level	2023-25 Committee Recommendation	Committee Change from 2021-23 Leg. Approved	
				\$ Change	% Change
Other Funds Limited	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,100	\$ 100,100	100.0%
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,100	\$ 100,100	100.0%

**Position Summary**

Authorized Positions	0	0	0	0	
Full-time Equivalent (FTE) positions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes adjustments through January 2023

\* Excludes Capital Construction expenditures

**Summary of Revenue Changes**

Other Funds revenues to support House Bill 2696 will come from six new fees to be established by the Health Licensing Office (HLO) of the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on sign language interpreters and related professions. OHA estimates up to 400 licensees will sign up for licensure in the 2023-25 biennium. Civil penalties from enforcement actions under this bill are deposited into the Health Licensing Office Account and are continually appropriated to HLO for the administration and enforcement of these provisions.

**Summary of Human Services Subcommittee Action**

House Bill 2696 establishes the state Board of Sign Language Interpreters and describes the Board’s composition, responsibilities, and service periods. The bill prohibits anyone without a license from providing sign language interpretation services and grants HLO authority to issue licenses for supervisory sign language interpretation, sign language interpreters, educational sign language interpreters, medical/legal sign language interpreters, and provisional licenses for sign language interpreters. HLO may enforce discipline in contested cases. HLO and the Department of Education are granted rulemaking authority to carry out the provisions of this act. OHA estimates it will issue 400 new licenses for sign language interpretation services under the bill.

The Subcommittee recommended \$100,100 Other Funds expenditure limitation to pay for the cost of establishing and administering the new board. This includes the following: \$13,600 Other Funds for board member compensation; \$40,000 Other Funds for the administrative overhead cost of the HLO structure, which provides staffing support shared across all boards it oversees; \$21,500 Other Funds for the publication of informational materials, supplies, and equipment and other standard Services and Supplies costs; \$5,000 Other Funds to contract with subject matter experts on sign language interpretation; and \$20,000 Other Funds to pay for legal fees related to guidance on program start up,

rulemaking, and other legal decisions. Of these amounts, \$21,000 Other Funds is estimated to be one-time in 2023-25, related to starting up the new board, including \$15,000 for legal consultation, \$3,500 for supplies and equipment, and \$2,500 for Professional Services and consultation.

**DETAIL OF JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ACTION**

**Oregon Health Authority  
Patrick Heath - 503-983-8670**

DESCRIPTION	GENERAL FUND	LOTTERY FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS		FEDERAL FUNDS		TOTAL ALL FUNDS	POS	FTE
			LIMITED	NONLIMITED	LIMITED	NONLIMITED			
<u>SUBCOMMITTEE ADJUSTMENTS</u>									
<b>SCR 030-05 - Public Health Programs</b>									
Personal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,600	0	0.00
Services and Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86,500		
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,100	0	0.00
SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,100		