

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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To: Capital Construction Subcommittee

From: John Borden, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: March 6, 2024

Subject: SB 1579 – Relating to child abuse
Work Session Recommendations

The measure creates the Children’s Advocacy Center Fund and that is continuously appropriated to the Department of Justice (DOJ) to establish and maintain sufficient children’s advocacy centers and regional children’s advocacy centers. Interest earnings are retained by the fund. The fund does not have a defined source of revenue apart from legislative appropriations or allocations. There are two amendments to the measure, one policy and one budgetary.

The -A15 policy amendment establishes the Children’s Advocacy Center One-Time Grant program and creates the Children’s Advocacy Center One-Time Grant Fund, which is continuously appropriated to the DOJ. Interest earnings are retained by the fund. The administrative expenses related to the grant program are an allowable expense of the fund. The fund does not have a defined source of revenue apart from legislative appropriations or allocations.

The -A15 amendment also includes a one-time General Fund appropriation in the amount of \$7 million for deposit into the Children’s Advocacy Center One-Time Grant Fund. Money in the fund are to be used as follows:

- (a) 50% in non-competitive grants: equal shares to be distributed to each children’s advocacy center providing service as on the effective date of the measure; any undistributed moneys from the initial 50% distribution is to be distributed to the non-profit Oregon Child Abuse Solutions for assisting children’s advocacy centers with accreditation.
- (b) 50% in competitive grants (awarded no later than June 30, 2025): for one-time grants, based on DOJ administrative rule, to only accredited children’s advocacy centers and health care providers and medical facilities; however, grants for each children’s advocacy centers may not exceed \$300,000, which cumulatively

includes: (1) distribution of non-competitive grant; (2) any awarded competitive grant(s); and (3) any amounts provided to health care providers and medical facilities connected to a children’s advocacy center.

The -A16 budget amendment establishes Other Funds expenditure limitation in the amount of \$7 million for the Children’s Advocacy Center One-Time Grant Fund and whose revenue source is the General Fund appropriation to the fund.

The cost of the measure for the 2023-25 biennium is \$7 million General Fund and \$7 million Other Funds expenditure limitation and one limited duration position (0.63 FTE) with associated services and supplies. The measure does not include funding for the Children’s Advocacy Center Fund. A budget report will be prepared for the measure. The 2025-27 cost of the measure is estimated to be \$75,942 Other Funds and one limited duration position (0.25 FTE).

The measure declares an emergency and is effect on passage. The Children’s Advocacy Center One-Time Grant program and Children’s Advocacy Center One-Time Grant Fund sunset on January 2, 2026 (2025-27 biennium).

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the –A15 amendment.

MOTION: I move adoption of the –A15 amendment to SB 1579. (VOTE)

LFO recommends adoption of the –A16 amendment.

MOTION: I move adoption of the –A16 amendment to SB 1579. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that SB 1579, as amended by the –A15 and -A16 amendments, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move SB 1579, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____