



Legislative Fiscal Office
 82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly
 2024 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to specialty courts; prescribing an effective date.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Criminal Justice Commission, Judicial Department, Legislative Policy and Research Office, Task Force/Committee/Workgroup

Summary of Fiscal Impact

This measure establishes a task force - see analysis below.

Measure Description

The measure creates the 19-member Task Force on Specialty Courts which is to study issues concerning specialty courts. The measure requires the Task Force to identify funding to ensure long-term stability of specialty courts, determine the administrative and funding balance between the Criminal Justice Commission and the Oregon Judicial Department, determine if drug courts use the correct eligibility metrics, and identify the accountability mechanism to ensure specialty courts are operating according to the standards of the commission. The bill directs the Legislative Policy and Research Office to provide staff support for the task force.

Fiscal Analysis

The fiscal impact is estimated to be \$254,331 General Fund in the 2023-25 biennium, which can be supported within the impacted agencies’ existing 2023-25 legislatively approved budget.

Legislative Policy and Research Office

The bill requires the Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO) to provide staff support to the task force. LPRO assumes a minimal fiscal impact with existing staff to provide support to this Task Force. Assuming monthly meetings over seven months, this will require one Senior Legislative Analyst assigned full-time to the task force (0.38 FTE), one Research Analyst assigned part-time to the task force (0.19 FTE), and one Committee Assistant assigned part-time to the task force (0.19 FTE), at a total cost of \$254,331 General Fund. Although LPRO’s 2023-25 legislatively approved budget supports interim committees and task forces, if the work required by this task force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2023-25 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required.

Other Agencies

The fiscal impact on the Oregon Judicial Department is minimal and the additional workload can be absorbed within current resources. There is no fiscal impact on the Criminal Justice Commission.

Relevant Dates

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage, and the task force sunsets on December 31, 2024.

The task force is to report to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to judiciary by November 15, 2024.