### FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION



Legislative Fiscal Office 83<sup>rd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to an interstate compact for school psychologists.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:** Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, School Districts, Department of Education, Judicial Department

## **Summary of Fiscal Impact**

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

# **Measure Description**

The measure enacts the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact. If approved, Oregon would become a compact member state with all other jurisdictions that have joined the compact. The purpose of the compact is to facilitate the interstate practice of school psychology in educational or school settings by allowing school psychologists with a valid license from one member state to practice in another member state. The measure establishes eligibility requirements for member states, including requiring them to share information with other member states. Member states may impose and collect fees in exchange for granting an equivalent license to licensees. The measure authorizes member states to investigate or discipline licensees subject to the compact.

The measure establishes the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact Commission, consisting of all member states that have enacted the compact. The commission is authorized to levy and collect an annual assessment from member states to cover the commission's administrative costs.

## **Fiscal Analysis**

The measure specifies that the compact will not have the force of law until it is enacted by at least seven states. As of February 2025, only two states (Washington and West Virginia) have enacted the compact. However, the compact is currently under consideration in eight other states (Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Maryland, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Dakota, and Oregon). Unless and until seven states enact the compact, the measure will have no fiscal impact.

Assuming seven states enact the measure, it is anticipated to have a minimal fiscal impact on the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC). Since TSPC regulates school psychologists, TSPC would presumably be responsible for paying the annual assessment imposed by the compact commission on member states. However, TSPC could potentially offset these costs by imposing and collecting fees on out-of-state licensees seeking to obtain an Oregon license. The measure is not anticipated to increase TSPC compliance costs, though, because TSPC currently only has authority to investigate and discipline Oregon licensees.

The measure is anticipated to have a minimal fiscal impact on the Oregon Judicial Department, and it is anticipated to have no fiscal impact on the Oregon Department of Education and school districts.

#### **Relevant Dates**

The measure takes effect on January 1, 2026. However, the compact will not go into effect until seven states have enacted it into law, and it is unknown when or if that will happen.

Measure: HB 2596