

Legislative Fiscal Office 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to easements on state land; prescribing an effective date.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Transportation, Department of Energy, Department of State Lands, Public Utility Commission

Summary of Fiscal Impact

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

Measure Description

The Department of State Lands (DSL) may establish a one-time application fee of \$750 for an easement to construct a water, gas, electric, or communication service line, fixture, or other facility on state land, excluding land within the territorial sea. DSL may not impose an application fee more than once per application for an easement to construct a water, gas, electric or communication service line, fixture or other facility.

The measure directs the Director of DSL to establish, by rule, application fees, renewal fees, and compensation rates to construct, maintain and decommission water, gas, electric, communication or telecommunication service lines, fixtures or other facilities on state land located within the territorial sea. These fees must be reasonably calculated to offset the costs of granting and renewing easements. DSL must adopt rules implementing these changes by January 1, 2027, and submit a progress report to the Legislative Assembly's committees related to the environment, land use, and natural resources by February 15, 2026.

Until the new rules take effect, DSL will continue to impose a \$5,000 application fee for easements within the territorial sea.

Fiscal Analysis

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal.

Department of State Lands

The measure is anticipated to have minimal fiscal impact on the Department of State Lands (DSL) in the 2025-27 biennium, as the agency will complete the required rulemaking and legislative report within existing resources. DSL expects to contract a professional facilitator to support the rulemaking process. The costs associated with facilitation are expected to be absorbed within DSL's current budget, and no additional positions or funding are required to implement the measure.

Other entities

The measure is anticipated to have no or minimal impact for the Department of Transportation, Department of Energy, and the Public Utility Commission.

Relevant Dates

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The Director of the Department of State Lands must adopt rules for fees and compensation rates described in ORS 273.058 by January 1, 2027.

The Department of State Lands shall submit a report to the committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the environment, land use and natural resources that describes the department's progress in implementing the amendments to ORS 273.058 by February 15, 2026.

Section 4 of the measure is repealed on January 2, 2027. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.