



Legislative Fiscal Office
83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to investigations of child abuse involving the child's parent.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Human Services, Department of Justice, Judicial Department

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Human Services	\$ 575,293	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 246,554	\$ 821,847	11	2.28
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 575,293	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 246,554	\$ 821,847	11	2.28

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Human Services	\$ 743,573	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 318,676	\$ 1,062,249	11	3.00
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 743,573	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 318,676	\$ 1,062,249	11	3.00

Measure Description

The measure requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to send a written notice to parents or guardians who are under investigation for alleged child abuse. The notice must be sent to the parent or guardian and reviewed verbally prior to meeting with DHS in person. The notice must include warnings of how the parent or guardian's responses may be used and the parent or guardian's rights. The measure applies to investigations of abuse committed on or after January 1, 2026.

Fiscal Analysis

The measure will require DHS to alter their current process for managing parent or guardian contact and may pose challenges to meeting contact requirements following abuse reports. Currently, DHS must reply to alleged reports of abuse within a certain timeline. This timeline can vary from 10 days to 24 hours and is dependent on several variables. DHS may have as little as 20 hours to make initial in-person contact with all required individuals required by DHS' current administrative rules. If the abuse is founded, DHS will conduct a disposition review. During the initial meeting, DHS provides the alleged perpetrator with a form titled, "What you need to know about CPS assessment" and reviews the document with the alleged perpetrator.

Should the measure pass, DHS would be required to send written notice to any parent or guardian who is accused of child abuse, whether founded or not, and conduct a disposition which will increase caseload by approximately 30%. DHS will need to establish new disposition processes for cases that are unfounded or unable to be determined. Additionally, since the written notice must be mailed and verbally reviewed prior to an in-person meeting, DHS is potentially at risk of not meeting its response timeline requirements.

The estimated fiscal impact of this measure is \$821,847 total funds and 11 permanent part-time positions (2.28 FTE) in 2025-27 increasing to \$1 million and 11 permanent part-time positions (3.00 FTE) in 2027-29. New

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: SB 736 - 1**

positions include 10 office specialist 2 positions (1.90 FTE) to support the increase in local office reviews and one operations and policy analyst 3 position (0.38 FTE) to support the workload increase at the central office. The estimated cost of the positions, including personal services and standard position-related costs is \$478,287 total funds. Additional costs include \$189,000 total funds for increased postage and mailing costs and \$154,560 total funds for additional DOJ hearings.

The measure has a minimal fiscal impact on the Oregon Judicial Department and the Department of Justice.

Relevant Dates

The measure takes effect on January 1, 2026.