

Legislative Fiscal Office 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to ports.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Oregon Business Development Department, Counties, Department of Consumer and Business Services, Special Districts, Department of Administrative Services

Summary of Fiscal Impact

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

Measure Description

The measure removes the \$50,000 cap on grants that the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority (IFA) within the Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) can make from the Port Planning and Marketing Fund. The measure specifies that grants to ports shall not exceed the lesser of 75% of the total cost of the project or a maximum amount OBDD shall set by rule.

Fiscal Analysis

The estimated fiscal impact to OBDD is anticipated to be minimal. IFA awards grants from the Port Planning and Marketing Fund to finance port strategic business plans, regional projects benefiting multiple ports, and other planning and marketing projects. Historically, most grants have been awarded for port strategic plans, which are typically updated every 10 years, and given the highest priority. In the 2021-23 biennium, OBDD awarded 10 grants totaling \$373,313.

Removing the \$50,000 cap on grants is anticipated to increase individual grant amounts and overall demand for the program, which will increase pressure on funding. OBDD anticipates awarding grants in amounts of \$75,000 - \$100,000, to better reflect project costs, but will also need to balance the changes in program costs and request volume with available resources. The Port Planning and Marketing Fund is funded through transfers of income earned on the Oregon Port Revolving Fund, which has a current balance of \$3.4 million. OBDD projects an additional \$3.6 million in applications to the Oregon Port Revolving Fund in the 2025-27 biennium. If the loan fund is not recapitalized, the remaining balance is estimated to be \$300,000.

There is no estimated fiscal impact to other state or local entities.

Relevant Dates

The measure takes effect on January 1, 2026.

Measure: HB 2415 - A