

MEMORANDUM

To: General Government Subcommittee

From: Haylee Morse-Miller, Legislative Fiscal Office
Emily Coates, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: May 27, 2025

Subject: Review of the Semi-Independent Agency Reports
Work Session Recommendation

The 2005 Legislature passed legislation requiring this review of semi-independent agencies by the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO). This is the 10th review LFO has presented to the Legislature.

Currently, 15 agencies have semi-independent status. Twelve of these semi-independent agencies are subject to ORS 182.456 to 182.472, which require them to submit biennial reports for LFO review. The submitted reports include information on licensing, complaints, investigations, and consumer protection activities, as well as financial review and budget information.

The other three agencies are the Oregon Tourism Commission, the Travel Information Council, and the Film and Video Office. Because the Travel Information Council and the Film and Video Office are required to present their budgets and agency operations information to a legislative committee, this report does not include a detailed review for these two agencies. This report does provide a brief review of the Oregon Tourism Commission's use of transient lodging tax for the 2021-23 and 2023-25 biennia.

The 12 semi-independent agencies subject to this reporting requirement are mostly self-funded and supported by income such as license, application, and examination fees; federal funds; grants; and other program revenue. A semi-independent agency's budget is not subject to Executive Branch review, or approval or modification by the Legislative Assembly.

Reports are submitted by agencies every April of even-numbered years. LFO reviews this information for completeness and compliance with statutory requirements. As part of this review, LFO corresponded via email and by telephone with agencies as needed to collect missing information, provide feedback on report content, and to discuss proposed recommendations for future reporting. In all cases, agencies were responsive to requests for information. LFO compiled the information gathered into the attached review.

The review covers agency performance for the 2021-23 biennium and the adopted budget for the 2023-25 biennium. Included in the LFO summary review of these reports are budget analyses for each of the 12 reporting agencies, tables and charts summarizing budget to actual numbers, as well as staffing, and licensing information. In short, all 12 agencies submitted information that generally complied with statutes.

LFO continues to work with these agencies to ensure that information regarding licensing activities, complaints, investigations, resolutions, and sanctions are reported in a way that will be reliable.

LFO recommends acknowledging receipt of the Review of Semi-Independent Agency Reports.