

Legislative Fiscal Office 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to a task force on reparations for Oregonians of African-American descent; prescribing an effective date.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Advocacy Commissions Office, Legislative Assembly, Legislative Policy and Research Office, Task Force/Committee/Workgroup

Summary of Fiscal Impact

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See explanatory analysis.

Measure Description

The measure creates the 15-member Task Force on Reparations which is to study and develop proposals for financial and nonfinancial reparations for Oregonians of African American descent, develop appropriate methods for educating the public about findings, and recommend appropriate remedies based on the task force's findings. The bill directs the Legislative Policy and Research Office to provide staff support for the task force.

Fiscal Analysis

The fiscal impact of staffing the task force is anticipated to be absorbed within existing agency resources.

Legislative Policy and Research Office

The bill requires the Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO) to provide staff support to the task force. LPRO's current service level budget is designed to support interim committees and a certain number of task forces within existing resources. However, the number of committees and task forces over the last several biennia have increased, and if the work required by this task force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2025-27 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required.

To estimate the potential expenditures for staffing this task force, assuming monthly meetings over 18 months, would require one Senior Legislative Analysts assigned full-time to the task force (0.75 FTE), one Research Analyst assigned part-time to the task force (0.38 FTE), and one Committee Assistant assigned part-time to the task force (0.38 FTE).

There is an additional indeterminate cost, depending on if LPRO needs to contract for financial models and economic estimates, to assist with the development of reparation proposals and defining who is eligible for monetary compensation. According to LPRO, this work was required of a similar reparations task force in California. This cost is initially estimated at \$100,000 to \$200,000. LPRO believes that additional costs could also result depending on the public engagement efforts required to educate the public about the findings of the task force. LPRO may need to contract for facilitation services depending on the scope of these efforts.

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Legislative Assembly

The bill is also expected to have a minimal impact on the Legislative Assembly. Although the 2025-27 Legislative Assembly budget contains funds allocated for interim committees and task forces, if the work required by this task force, or if the cumulative enactment of other legislation with interim committees and task forces exceeds expenditure levels beyond those assumed in the 2025-27 budget, additional General Fund resources may be required.

Members of the task force who are legislative members are entitled to per diem and travel reimbursement. The task force would not incur additional costs to the Legislative Assembly budget if the meetings are held at the Capitol building during the Legislative Session, or Task Force or Legislative Days.

The measure has no fiscal impact to the Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office.

Relevant Dates

The bill takes effect on the 91st day after the Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die, and the task force sunsets on December 31, 2026.

The task force is to report to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to government by September 15, 2026.