FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION



Legislative Fiscal Office 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

Prepared by: MaryMichelle Sosne

Reviewed by: Emily Coates, Steve Robbins, John Borden, Matt Stayner

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Bill Title: Relating to billing for ground ambulance services.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Judicial Department, Department of Justice, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Consumer and Business Services

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Consumer and							
Business Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 502,113	\$ -	\$ 502,113	2	1.76
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 502,113	\$ -	\$ 502,113	2	1.76

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Consumer and							
Business Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 549,359	\$ -	\$ 549,359	2	2.00
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 549,359	\$ -	\$ 549,359	2	2.00

Measure Description

The measure prohibits ground ambulance services from charging enrollees if they have already paid the innetwork cost-sharing amount specified in their health benefit plan. Health benefit plans are required to reimburse ground ambulance service organizations at the established local rate, or if unavailable, at a minimum of 325% of the Medicare rate. The Public Employees' Benefit Board and the Oregon Educators Benefit Board are exempt from this requirement but may choose to adopt these requirements. Ground ambulance service organizations must submit a catalog of their local rates to the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) annually and within five days of any rate change. DCBS is directed to publish a public database to post these local rates.

The measure grants DCBS the authority to impose civil penalties of up to \$1,000 for violations of related rules. By September 15, 2026, DCBS must submit a report to the Legislature that includes all consumer complaints related to billing services for ground ambulances before and after implementation of the measure, the number of contracts ground ambulance service organizations and health benefit plans entered into after January 1, 2026, and any effect the measure had on health benefit plan premium rates after January 1, 2026.

Fiscal Analysis

<u>Department of Consumer and Business Services.</u>

The fiscal impact of the measure on DCBS is \$502,113 Other Funds for two permanent full-time positions (0.88 FTE each) in 2025-27 and \$549,359 Other Funds and two positions (2.00 FTE) in 2027-29.

Based on available ambulance company licensee data, DCBS anticipates 135 ambulance services providers will be required to file rates with DCBS. To process the new and increased workload, DCBS will need one Operations

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and Policy Analyst 3 position to develop and maintain the new public database, collect information on local rates for ground ambulances, and track metrics. Additionally, DCBS will need one Program Analyst 2 position to process inquiries and complaints, develop outreach and educational materials, and engage with stakeholders.

Other Entities

The measure has a minimal fiscal impact on Oregon Judicial Department and Department of Justice and no fiscal impact on the Oregon Health Authority.

Relevant Dates

The measure takes becomes operative on January 1, 2026, and applies to health benefit plans issued, renewed, or extended on or after this date.

DCBS must submit a report to the Legislature by September 15, 2026, this requirement is repealed on January 2, 2027.

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