



Legislative Fiscal Office
 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to firearms.

Government Unit(s) Affected: District Attorneys, Counties, Public Defense Commission, Department of Corrections, Oregon Youth Authority, Cities, Judicial Department, Criminal Justice Commission, Department of State Police, Department of Justice

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of State Police	\$ 14,718,683	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,718,683	32	28.64
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 14,718,683	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,718,683	32	28.64

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of State Police	\$ 11,629,174	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,629,174	28	28.00
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 11,629,174	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,629,174	28	28.00

Measure Description

The measure modifies Ballot Measure 114, that was approved by voters on November 8, 2022, to include a 72-hour waiting period before a gun dealer may transfer a firearm or unfinished frame to a firearm purchaser who has a valid permit to purchase (PTP). The measure also specifies that if the Department of State Police (OSP) is unable to determine if the purchaser is qualified or disqualified from completing the transfer, OSP must notify the gun dealer within 30 minutes and provide them with an estimate of time when the Department will provide the requested information.

The measure defines rapid fire activator and creates a new crime of unlawful transport, manufacture or transfer of a rapid-fire activator. The new crime is a Class A misdemeanor for unlawful possession of a rapid-fire activator or a Class B felony for unlawful transport, manufacture or transfer of a rapid-fire activator.

In addition, the measure modifies the definition of a public building to include the grounds adjacent to the building and authorizes governing bodies of specified public entities to adopt policy, ordinance, or regulations that the affirmative defense concerning individuals licensed to carry a concealed handgun does not apply to possession of a firearm within the governing body’s building and on grounds adjacent to the buildings owned by the governing body. A governing body that adopts such policy must post a clearly visible sign at all normal points of entry to the building and grounds and post a notice on the governing body’s website.

Finally, the measure declares that the provisions of this measure shall be known as and may be cited as the Oregon Suicide Prevention and Community Safety Firearms Act.

Fiscal Analysis

The fiscal impact is estimated to be \$14.7 million General Fund and 32 positions (28.64 FTE) in the 2025-27 biennium and \$11.6 million General Fund and 28 positions (28.00 FTE) in the 2027-29 biennium. While Ballot Measure 114 (2022) is current law, the law has not been funded previously due to a court injunction challenging the law's constitutionality. Therefore, the fiscal impact reflects the funding to implement the law in addition to the changes in the measure.

Department of State Police

In estimating the fiscal impact, OSP reports that the Permit-to-Purchase (PTP) program directed by the measure differs enough from the existing Firearms Instant Check System (FICS) program that the agency will need to create a new standalone unit. Under the measure, staff will need to complete a background check for the application for the permit in addition to completing a background check every time a permit holder purchases a firearm, which is the work currently done today when an individual purchases a firearm. The new PTP program would consist of the following functions and staffing, which are priced beginning on October 1, 2025, based on the effective date of the measure:

- **Information Technology:** The PTP program would require changes and updates to existing information technology systems and the creation of a new information technology system to track the PTP applications and determinations, and the firearms the permit holder has had transferred to OSP. OSP anticipates the need of one permanent full-time Information Systems Specialist 7 position (0.88 FTE in 2025-27 and 1.00 FTE in 2027-29) to support the IT systems. The estimated costs of this position, including standard position-related services and supplies costs, is \$275,774 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium and \$312,312 General Fund in the 2027-29 biennium. Additionally, OSP estimates \$4.1 million of anticipated expenses related to the required database. OSP reports that the majority of the database costs are one-time in 2025-27 the biennium, with an estimated \$1.2 million General Fund biennial costs for ongoing maintenance and hosting.
- **Background checks:** PTP background checks differ from FICS background checks in several components, including PTP requiring a fingerprint-based background check, a required processing timeframe of 30-days, utilization of a gun registry and permit database. To address the expected workload, OSP anticipates the need of 15 permanent full-time Public Service Representative 4 positions (13.20 FTE in 2025-27 and 15.00 FTE in 2027-29) to process the background investigations required for a PTP and four limited duration full-time Public Service Representative 4 positions (4.00 FTE in 2025-27) to process the initial surge of PTP applications. The estimated costs of these positions, including standard position-related services and supplies costs, is \$3.7 million General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium and \$3.1 million General Fund in the 2027-29 biennium.
- **Compliance and Reporting:** To support the implementation and data analysis of the PTP program, OSP anticipates the need of two permanent full-time Operations and Policy Analyst 3 positions (1.76 FTE in 2025-27 and 2.00 FTE in 2027-29) to guide implementation work, produce annual reports, ensure program compliance and data accuracy. The estimated costs of these positions, including standard position-related services and supplies costs, is \$553,840 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium and \$627,244 million General Fund in the 2027-29 biennium. Additionally, OSP anticipates one-time \$2.6 million General Fund in services and supplies in the 2025-27 biennium, including \$350,000 in development and distribution of the quadruplicate forms used by permit agents and attorney general costs.
- **Program Administration:** With the increase in staffing and workload, OSP anticipates the need for four permanent full-time Office Specialist 2 positions (3.52 FTE in 2025-27 and 4.00 FTE in 2027-29) to assist with administrative support functions, two permanent full-time Business Operations Supervisor 1

positions (1.76 FTE in 2025-27 and 2.00 FTE in 2027-29) to provide staff supervision, and one permanent full-time Business Operations Manager 1 position (0.88 FTE in 2025-27 and 1.00 FTE in 2027-29) to provide oversight of the program. The estimated costs of these positions, including standard position-related services and supplies costs, is one-time \$1.3 million General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium and \$1.5 million General Fund in the 2027-29 biennium. Additionally, OSP anticipates one-time \$1.8 million General Fund in services and supplies in the 2025-27 biennium, including facility rental costs.

In addition, OSP anticipates that the Automated Biometric Identification System unit, an existing unit, will need three additional permanent full-time Fingerprint Technician positions (2.64 FTE in 2025-27 and 3.00 FTE in 2027-29) to perform the increased volume of fingerprint-based checks that are required under this measure, and which are also priced beginning on October 1, 2025. The estimated costs of these positions, including standard position-related services and supplies costs, is \$502,824 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium and \$566,085 General in the 2027-29 biennium.

The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) notes that under current law there is no funding provided to the Department to reimburse for the costs of the program nor does the measure authorize OSP to collect any portion of the fee by the permit agent to be retained by the Department. Absent other legislation modifying OSP's ability to retain fee revenue to support the program (e.g., HB 3075, 2025), this fiscal assumes the costs to OSP under current law, and the provisions of this measure, the need for General Fund to support the program.

Cities and Counties

The fiscal impact for cities and counties is indeterminate, including the current law under the ballot measure. With the requirement of local law enforcement and county sheriff's acting as the permit agency, depending on the volume of applicants in the respective city or county, those entities may need to develop and implement a permit application program which would require additional staffing and resources that would be paid for with the permit application and renewal fees received.

District Attorneys

The fiscal impact to the District Attorneys (DA) is indeterminate, including the current law under the ballot measure, but anticipated to be minimal. The new crime created by the measure may result in additional charges being pursued and filed by prosecution.

Oregon Judicial Department

The fiscal impact for the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) is indeterminate, including the current law under the ballot measure. With the requirement for an individual to apply for a PTP before acquiring a firearm, OJD anticipates an increase in court filings for petitions of those who had their application or renewal denied or revoked. These petitions must be filed within 30 days of the receipt of the notice of denial or revocation and the court must hear and dispose the petitions within 15 judicial days of filing. Additionally, the new crime created by the measure may result in higher court costs. These additional court filings will be dependent, and variable, based on county enforcement of the new requirements. OJD is unable to estimate the impact of the measure at this time, but the measure is anticipated to increase costs once actual caseloads are identified.

Public Defense Commission

The fiscal impact to the Public Defense Commission (PDC) is indeterminate, including the current law under the ballot measure. The new crime created by the measure, as well as those defendants determined to be financially eligible for court-appointed counsel, may result in higher public defense costs. While PDC estimates the impact of the measure to be minimal, the actual number of eligible cases that do occur will be factored into future caseload forecasts by the Department of Administrative Services - Office of Economic Analysis.

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 243 - A

Other entities

There is a minimal fiscal impact to the Department of Corrections and the Department of Justice and there is no fiscal impact to the Criminal Justice Commission, and the Oregon Youth Authority.

Relevant Dates

The measure takes effect on the 91st day after sine die.