



Legislative Fiscal Office
 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
 2026 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to the welfare of young people; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Early Learning and Care, Department of Human Services, Department of Justice, Oregon Youth Authority, Department of Education, Oregon Health Authority, Department of Corrections

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Human Services	\$ 1,671,769	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,417,004	\$ 3,088,773	16	9.30
Oregon Health Authority	\$ 791,886	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 791,886	-	-
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 2,463,655	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,417,004	\$ 3,880,659	16	9.30

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Human Services	\$ 1,469,505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,245,562	\$ 2,715,067	14	11.88
Oregon Health Authority	\$ 696,162	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 696,162	-	-
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 2,165,667	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,245,562	\$ 3,411,229	14	11.88

- The fiscal impact identified in the table for the Department of Human Services does not include the duplicate Other Funds expenditure limitation necessary to pay for expenses through the agency’s Shared Services budget structure.

Measure Description

The measure expands definitions of “child in care” to include any children in the physical or legal custody of the Department of Human Services (DHS) and children living in adjudicated foster homes. Additionally, the measure expands the definition for individuals responsible for children-in-care and what constitutes abuse for this expanded population. DHS is granted the authority to issue a provisional license to a child-caring agency subject to the requirements of the measure.

Fiscal Analysis

The fiscal impact is estimated to be \$3.9 million total funds and 16 positions (9.30 FTE) in the 2025-27 biennium and \$3.4 million total funds and 14 positions (11.88 FTE) in the 2027-29 biennium.

Department of Human Services

The estimated fiscal impact of this measure is \$3.1 million total funds and 16 positions (14 FTE) in 2025-27. The fiscal impact identified in the table for DHS does not include the duplicate Other Funds expenditure limitation of \$3.8 million necessary to pay for expenses through the agency’s Shared Services budget structure. Should this measure be adopted, the expenditure limitation will need to be established to properly budget for these intra-

agency expenses. Additionally, there is an indeterminate fiscal impact for the Child Welfare Division, it is unclear how the changes to investigations, screenings and licensing will impact the division at this time.

The measure significantly increases both the individuals who qualify as “children in care” as well as those responsible for care or services for the child. As a result, the Office of Training, Investigations and Safety (OTIS) estimates an increase of 2,066 screenings per year, and 741 additional investigations for those who qualify under the existing child-in-care population.

The new positions for the increased workload include the following permanent full-time positions: five Investigator 3 positions, one Case Presenter, one Administrative Specialist, one Compliance Specialist 3, one Operations and Policy Analyst, and one Administrative Specialist 2. Positions also include the following permanent part-time positions: two Investigator 3 positions and one Case Presenter. Additionally, there are three limited-duration full-time positions: one Investigator 3 position, one Administrative Specialist 1 position and one Operations and Policy Analyst 4 position.

Because OTIS is a shared service, DHS and OHA will share the costs for these positions. DHS will contribute approximately \$1.7 million General Fund, \$1.4 million Federal Funds and \$470 Other Funds. OHA will pay \$791,886 General Fund. Additionally, DHS will require \$3.8 million in duplicate Other Funds to receive DHS and OHA’s combined payment.

Although the measure is effective upon passage, the scope and volume of work required make it unlikely that DHS will be able to implement immediately as intended.

Oregon Health Authority

The estimated fiscal impact to OHA is \$791,886 General Fund; this is the portion of Shared Services costs OHA is required to pay. OHA’s costs support the requested positions in the Office of Training, Investigations and Safety (OTIS) discussed in DHS’ section above.

Other Entities

The measure has a minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Justice and no fiscal impact on the Department of Early Learning and Care, Oregon Youth Authority, Department of Education, or the Department of Corrections.

Relevant Dates

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.