

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: SJR 202**Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2014 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official***

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Date: 2/10/2014

Measure Description:

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution creating State Board of Education.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Secretary of State, Department of Education, Oregon University System

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

See analysis.

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

Senate Joint Resolution 202 refers for voters' approval a Constitutional amendment to establish the State Board of Education for the purpose of establishing policies for the administration and operation of the public elementary and secondary schools, community colleges and public universities in Oregon. The Board is charged with appointing the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Constitution amendment allows employees of the State Board of Education to serve in the Legislative Assembly.

Because the measure is referred to voters at the next regular general election, the fiscal impact to the Secretary of State's office is the state's portion of incremental costs incurred for an already-funded election. The Secretary of State prepares and distributes the voters' pamphlet and collects a \$500 filing fee for each argument submitted in support or opposition of a ballot measure. Typically, these filing fees cover slightly more than one-half of the cost of producing and mailing the voters' pamphlet. The remaining costs are paid by the General Fund.

At this time, the fiscal impact to the Secretary of State's office is indeterminate. This is because the cost of producing and distributing the voters' pamphlet is determined by the total number of initiatives and legislative referrals on the ballot, and by the number of arguments submitted in support or opposition of these ballot measures, and this information will not be known until after election filing deadlines. The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) assumes that the Secretary will seek General Fund support from the Emergency Board or Legislative Assembly if the actual voters' pamphlet costs exceed currently budgeted election expenditures.

Under procedures established in ORS 250.125 and 250.127, a financial impact committee is created for each state measure submitted to the ballot through the initiative and referendum processes. For this reason, LFO does not include an estimate of the fiscal impact that would result if this joint resolution were to be adopted by a vote of the people.