75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY House Committee on Health Care

MEASURE: HJR 18 CARRIER:

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued	
Action:	Be Adopted and Be Referred to the Rules Committee by prior reference
Vote:	8 - 2 - 0
Yeas:	Cannon, Dembrow, Garrett, Harker, Kennemer, Kotek, Thompson, Greenlick
Nays:	Bruun, Maurer
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Roxie Cuellar, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/14, 4/15

REVENUE: No revenue impact **FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Refers to the voters an amendment to the Oregon Constitution creating an obligation on state to provide equal access to effective, medically appropriate and affordable health care to legal residents as a fundamental right.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Difficulty of assuring equal access to health care to residents of Portland as well as residents of Burns
- Relationship between health care and clean environment
- Comparison between fundamental right to health care and that of education
- Relationship between HJR 18 and HB 2009

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The intent of the Resolution is to assure that all legal residents of Oregon are guaranteed equal assess to effective, medically appropriate and affordable health care. Proponents say three polls have shown large public support for recognizing health care as a fundamental right. The constitutional amendment would provide the mandate for statutory provisions, such as proposed HB 2009, to implement the right of Oregon's legal residents to health care.