

HB 3063 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 4/6, 4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Mental Health Housing Fund to develop community-based housing for individuals with mental illness and provide other housing-related services. Specifies maximum allocation of fund towards certain construction and start-up costs. Appropriates money to Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for implementation and requires OHA to seek and apply for additional funding. Requires OHA to convene advisory group to make recommendations for the Mental Health Housing Fund regarding allocation of money, housing proposals and processing applications. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Funding for Mental Health Housing
- Provision of incentives to build mental health housing
- Crisis respite beds and other mental health services
- Partnerships to fund housing and services for mental health

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to fund the Mental Health Housing Fund. Specifies that money from the Mental Health Housing Fund be appropriated to OHA.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Legislature in 2015 dedicated \$20 million in lottery bonds to the Housing for Mental Health Fund at Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) Department. These funds were allocated for the purpose to provide financial assistance to aid in the development, acquisition, renovation or improvement of affordable housing for Oregonians who have mental illnesses or addiction disorders. Currently, OHCS is collaborating with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to seek applications for and fund eligible affordable multifamily residential rental housing developments supporting Oregonians with serious mental illness or substance use disorders.

House Bill 3063 establishes the Mental Health Housing Fund to develop community-based housing for individuals with mental illness and provide other housing-related services. The measure specifies maximum allocation of fund towards certain construction and start-up costs. Money is appropriated to OHA for implementation and requires OHA to seek and apply for additional funding.

House Bill 3063 also requires OHA to convene advisory group to make recommendations for the Mental Health Housing Fund regarding allocation of money, housing proposals and processing applications.