

HB 2691 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Prepared By: Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates the Oregon Psychiatric Access Line in the Oregon Health and Science University. Specifies the access line is to provide telephone or electronic psychiatric consultations to primary care providers treating patients with mental health disorders. Requires consulting psychiatrists to adhere to existing prescription drug treatment protocols.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Psychiatric Access Line about Kids (OPAL-K) was established in 2013 with funding from the Oregon legislature. The Oregon Psychiatric Access Line (OPAL) is a partnership among the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), the Oregon Pediatric Society, and the Oregon Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The program provides free, same-day child and adolescent psychiatric phone consultations to primary care providers throughout the state.

In 2018, Senate Bill 1539 sought to expand OPAL-K by providing psychiatric consultation to include the geriatric and adult population in Oregon. Although Senate Bill 1539 was not enacted, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 5201 which included a budget note appropriating \$900,000 from the General Fund to the Oregon Health Authority for expansion of the Oregon Psychiatric Access Line program to primary care providers caring for individuals age 19 or older.

House Bill 2691 expands OPAL to provide psychiatric phone service to primary care providers treating adults.