

HB 2339 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/5, 3/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Health Authority to establish a grant program and criteria to administer funds to sobering facilities based on community need. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued - indeterminate.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Appropriate care settings for individuals in need of detoxification services and treatment
- Sobering services are limited to 24-hours; need for transitioning to community-based services after 24-hour period as part of a continuum for care
- Improved use of local resources by city and county agencies by keeping individuals out of correctional and hospital settings
- Availability of capital funds and need for continued operating funds among sobering facilities
- Coverage of service provision by coordinated care organizations and commercial carriers (e.g., billable services for sobering facilities)

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Sobering facilities provide intoxicated individuals a safe, clean, and supervised facility to regain sobriety (four to 48 hours); diverting individuals from the criminal justice system and offering treatment options. In 2015, the Legislative Assembly required the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to maintain a registry of sobering facilities. To qualify for registration, a sobering facility must partner with a treatment provider and consult with the provider in the adoption of safety policies and procedures. In 2017, House Bill 2175 passed eliminating the cap on the number of facilities that OHA may register. As of January 2019, there are four registered facilities (Eugene, Medford, Portland, and Grants Pass) and three facilities pending approval by OHA (in Klamath, Douglas, and Marion counties).

House Bill 2339 requires the Oregon Health Authority to establish a grant program to administer funds to sobering facilities.