HB 3185   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:	3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows individuals and employers that offer health coverage to enroll in Medicaid. Requires eligible enrollees to pay premiums as established by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and allows enrollees to enroll in a coordinated care organization or receive services on a fee-for-service basis. Requires OHA to maintain an online application and enrollment procedures.

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:

Recently, policy proposals have been introduced at both the federal and state levels that would permit individuals above Medicaid eligibility levels to "buy in" to Medicaid or leverage the state Medicaid program to strengthen coverage across the individual market and Medicaid. States are exploring the concept of a Medicaid buy-in program (or public option) to establish a new coverage program targeting lower-income individuals and families not eligible for Medicaid or federal subsidies through the Marketplace.

A state has flexibility in designing a Medicaid buy-in proposal, making policy decisions across a range of key program features such as provider networks, reimbursement rates, and the role of public and private plans, to create a program that resembles a Medicaid benefit, a marketplace product, or a hybrid of the two. States may choose to pursue federal waivers (e.g., Section 1332). As of 2019, seven states have introduced legislation to create a Medicaid buy-in proposals seeking to address marketplace access and competition, insurance premium and cost-sharing affordability, and alignment across Medicaid and individual insurance market coverage.

House Bill 3185 creates a Medicaid buy-in program for individuals and employers in Oregon.