

SB 167 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

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Meeting Dates: 4/24, 5/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Clarifies definition of "program" in the Mental Health Services Bill of Rights to include mental health services offered by public and private providers, as well as other providers paid directly or indirectly by the Oregon Health Authority.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Mental Health Services Bill of Rights, ORS 430.205 and 430.210, was enacted in 1993. Since that time, the manner in which mental health services receive public financing has left many providers uncovered by the definitions in those statutes. This, in turn, leaves individuals in their care unprotected by the Mental Health Services Bill of Rights. Senate Bill 1540 (2018) updated the definitions in the mandatory abuse reporting and investigation statutes that govern mental health service provisions to include providers that had been left uncovered by the changes in public financing of mental health services.

Senate Bill 167 aligns definitions in the mental health services bill of rights with the newly updated mandatory reporting and investigations definitions to ensure that its protections are guaranteed to all individuals receiving publicly funded mental health services.