

**SB 26 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Fagan

**Senate Committee On Human Services**

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**Action Date:** 01/31/19

**Action:** Do pass.

**Vote:** 4-0-1-0

**Yeas:** 4 - Fagan, Gelser, Heard, Monnes Anderson

**Exc:** 1 - Knopp

**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Jamie Hinsz, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 1/24, 1/31

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires Oregon Health Authority to discharge employees upon substantiation of claim they physically or sexually abused a patient or client. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Process for substantiated abuse claims
- Background checks during hiring process

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) was established as a state agency in 2009 through House Bill 2009. The director of OHA, or a designee of the director, is authorized to appoint, suspend, or discharge any employee. Senate Bill 26 requires employees to be discharged if a claim that they have physically or sexually abused a patient or client is substantiated.