

HB 2339 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 03/07/19

Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 11-0-0-0

Yeas: 11 - Alonso Leon, Boles, Drazan, Greenlick, Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Mitchell, Noble, Nosse, Prusak, Salinas

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/5, 3/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Health Authority to establish a grant program and criteria to distribute funds to sobering facilities based on community need. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Appropriate care settings for individuals in need of detoxification services and treatment
- Sobering services limited to 24 hours; need for transition to community-based services after 24-hour period as part of continuum of care
- Improved use of community resources by local agencies to keep individuals out of correctional and hospital settings when appropriate
- 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, supervised facility where they can spend four to 48 hours to regain sobriety, access treatment options, and be diverted from the criminal justice system. 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 in Eugene, Medford, Portland, and Grants Pass, and three facilities pending approval 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.