

HB 2691 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Monnes Anderson

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 04/17/19
Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.
Vote: 3-0-2-0
Yeas: 3 - Beyer, Knopp, Monnes Anderson
Exc: 2 - Fagan, Linthicum
Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Brian Nieubuurt, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 4/15, 4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes statutory authority for the Oregon Psychiatric Access Line (OPAL) in the Oregon Health and Science University. Requires OPAL to provide telephone or electronic real-time psychiatric consultations, from 9am to 5pm all business days, to primary care providers who care for patients with mental health disorders. Requires psychiatrists providing advice to primary care providers through access line be informed by guidelines in Practitioner-Managed Prescription Drug Plan or recommended by Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of OPAL
- Psychiatric provider shortage
- Value provided to rural areas
- Number of providers utilizing OPAL

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Initially focusing on children, the Oregon Psychiatric Access Line (OPAL) was established in 2013 with funding from the Oregon Legislative Assembly. A collaboration between Oregon Health and Science University's Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Adult Psychiatry, the Oregon Pediatric Society, and the Oregon Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, OPAL provides free, same-day, Monday through Friday, child and adult psychiatric phone consultation to primary care providers in Oregon.

House Bill 2691-A establishes statutory authority for OPAL to provide real-time psychiatric consultation services to primary care providers who care for patients with mental health disorders.