Senate Bill 1035

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced.**

Requires Oregon Health Authority and Department of Human Services to design program for providing limited benefit package of financial assistance, services and supports to individuals who receive care from family members, friends or neighbors who are not compensated for providing care. Requires authority to apply for federal approval as necessary to secure federal financial participation in cost of limited benefit package. Requires department to appoint and convene advisory committee, with specified membership, to advise on design of program and limited benefit package and on application for federal approval.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

1   **A BILL FOR AN ACT**

2   Relating to unpaid caregivers; and declaring an emergency.

3   **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4   <u>SECTION 1.</u> **(1) As used in this section and section 2 of this 2019 Act:**

5   **(a) "Care recipient" means an individual who:**

6   **(A) Is 55 years of age or older;**

7   **(B) Has a chronic illness or disabling condition that requires a nursing facility level of**

8   **care;**

9   **(C) Has income below 400 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and**

10   **(D) Does not qualify for medical assistance, as defined in ORS 414.025.**

11   **(b) "Unpaid caregiver" means a family member, friend or neighbor of a care recipient**

12   **who provides uncompensated in-home care to the care recipient.**

13   **(2) The Oregon Health Authority, in collaboration with the Department of Human Ser-**

14   **vices and based on the advice of the advisory committee convened under section 2 of this**

15   **2019 Act, shall:**

16   **(a) Design a program for a limited benefit package to be provided to care recipients that**

17   **includes:**

18   **(A) A stipend of up to $500 per month;**

19   **(B) A combination of supports and services such as care coordination, respite care, du-**

20   **rable medical equipment or training and education for unpaid caregivers; and**

21   **(C) Other supports and services necessary to preserve and enhance the quality of life of**

22   **care recipients and to prevent or delay their need for more costly institutional or in-home**

23   **and community-based care.**

24   **(b) No later than March 31, 2020, apply for approval from the Centers for Medicare and**

25   **Medicaid Services in the manner most appropriate to secure federal financial participation**

26   **in the cost of the limited benefit package designed under paragraph (a) of this subsection.**

27   **(3) No later than December 1, 2020, the department shall report to the Legislative As-**

28   **sembly, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, on the status of the application described in**

1 subsection (2)(b) of this section and legislative changes, if any, that are necessary to imple-
2 ment the program described in subsection (2)(a) of this section.
3 SECTION 2. The Department of Human Services shall appoint and convene an advisory
4 committee to study and make recommendations to the department and to the Oregon Health
5 Authority on the design of the program, the limited benefit package and the application for
6 federal approval, as described in section 1 of this 2019 Act. The advisory committee must
7 include, but is not limited to, individuals representing:
8 (1) The authority;
9 (2) Area agencies, as defined in ORS 410.040;
10 (3) The Home Care Commission; and
11 (4) Stakeholders including care recipients, unpaid caregivers, long term care providers
12 and adult day care providers.
13 SECTION 3. Sections 1 and 2 of this 2019 Act are repealed on July 1, 2021.
14 SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
15 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect
16 on its passage.
17 _____