

SB 1519 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

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Meeting Dates: 2/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), when conducting a criminal records check review of a subject individual for fitness determination, to not consider a misdemeanor conviction for operating a boat while under influence of intoxicants, if the subject individual had no more than one similar conviction in the five-year period prior to the date of the records check. Reduces period from two years to 18 months for which DHS and OHA complete criminal records checks of residential facility or adult foster home employees, individuals paid directly or indirectly with public funds who have or will have contact with support services recipients, residents of an adult foster home or residential facility, Home Care Commission home care workers or personal support workers. Provides authorization for DHS and OHA to complete records checks of individuals listed above more frequently than once during an 18-month period if, based on department or authority rules, it would be burdensome for a subject individual to wait for a new criminal records check. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

No revenue impact.

Minimal fiscal impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

When evaluating the fitness of an individual as an employee, contractor, or volunteer, the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) are prohibited from considering a conviction for driving under the influence of intoxicants if it is a single conviction and over five years have passed since the conviction. DHS and OHA are also prohibited from conducting a criminal records check more than once every two-years on certain employees.

Senate Bill 1519-A prohibits DHS and OHA from considering a conviction for operating a boat while under the influence of intoxicants, if the individual had no more than one similar conviction in the five years prior to the criminal records check. The measure also allows DHS or OHA to conduct a criminal records check more than once during an 18-month period if DHS or OHA determines it would be burdensome for a subject individual to wait for a new criminal records check.