

**HB 4161 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Alonso Leon

**House Committee On Health Care**

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**Action Date:** 02/13/20

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and rescind subsequent referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 11-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 11 - Alonso Leon, Drazan, Greenlick, Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Moore-Green, Noble, Nosse, Prusak, Salinas, Schouten

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/13

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Defines terms: Regional Health Equity Coalition (RHEC) and RHEC model. Directs Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to work with RHECs. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- History of Oregon's RHECs
- Health inequities among communities of color in Oregon
- Increase capacity statewide to address health disparities
- Collaboration between coordinated care organizations and RHECs

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Removes and replaces references to "target communities" with "priority populations." Modifies definition of RHEC. Directs Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to work with RHECs. Deletes General Fund appropriation for grant dollars to RHECs and technical assistant by OHA.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) funds regional health equity coalitions (RHECs) that currently serve 11 counties and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. OHA reports that RHECs are regional, community-driven organizations that work to address local health disparities, which initially received funding in 2011. The coalitions work in their communities to address issues related to health care, education, housing, employment, and transportation, among others. Over time, the coalitions seek to increase community engagement, develop organizational capacity, and support policies that address health equity issues, both at the local and state level for vulnerable and marginalized populations.

House Bill 4161-A establishes in statute a definition of Regional Health Equity Coalitions in Oregon.