

B-Engrossed
House Bill 4031

Ordered by the House February 28
Including House Amendments dated February 10 and February 28

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Health Care for Representative Andrea Salinas)

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.

Directs Oregon Health Authority to assess supply and demand of behavioral health professionals in state, report findings of assessment to legislature and make recommendations for legislation not later than *[November]* **December 1, 2020.**

[Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.]

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to behavioral health; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Health Authority shall prepare an assessment that forecasts**
5 **the supply of and demand for behavioral health professionals in this state over the next 10**
6 **years. The assessment must function as an evaluative and planning tool for the Legislative**
7 **Assembly with regard to behavioral health professionals.**

8 **(2) The assessment must focus on compiling the existing work of the authority with rel-**
9 **evant previously conducted studies and relevant local and national data in order to determine**
10 **specifically how to develop and improve the behavioral health workforce of this state. The**
11 **assessment must detail the behavioral health professionals who are currently ready to enter**
12 **the workforce and the need for behavioral health professionals by specific types of services**
13 **and professionals and must forecast the need for behavioral health professionals in 10 years.**

14 **(3) In addition to the requirements described in subsection (2) of this section, the as-**
15 **essment must:**

16 **(a) Specifically identify any current gaps in the behavioral health workforce and the**
17 **ability of the workforce to meet the needs of this state;**

18 **(b) Determine the number and type of behavioral health professionals who are currently**
19 **completing educational programs, obtaining licensure or other authorization to practice and**
20 **entering the workforce, and determine the number of unlicensed behavioral health profes-**
21 **sionals entering into the workforce or expanding their scopes of practice;**

22 **(c) Include results from consultation with the Department of Education, the Higher Ed-**
23 **ucation Coordinating Commission and relevant health professional regulatory boards in this**
24 **state to determine relevant information for the assessment; and**

25 **(d) Identify and evaluate any barriers to meeting the current goals for the behavioral**
26 **health workforce, and make recommendations that clearly articulate strategies to remove**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 or overcome barriers.

2 (4) Health professional regulatory boards and state agencies that regulate any behavioral
3 health professionals, and public institutions of higher education and technical schools that
4 offer educational programs related to behavioral health, shall cooperate with the authority
5 as requested by the authority for purposes of the assessment described in this section.

6 (5) Not later than December 1, 2020, the authority shall submit the assessment described
7 in this section, and any recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the
8 Legislative Assembly related to behavioral health.

9 SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
10 ated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium ending June 30, 2021, out of the
11 General Fund, the amount of \$606,246, which may be expended for the purpose carrying out
12 section 1 of this 2020 Act.

13 SECTION 3. This 2020 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
14 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2020 Act takes effect
15 on its passage.
16
