

Senate Bill 1548

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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**.

Establishes Essential Health Benefits Advisory Committee to advise Department of Consumer and Business Services on anticipated financial impact to state of pending legislation requiring coverage of additional health benefit in health benefit plans offered in this state. Specifies membership and duties of committee.

Takes effect October 1, 2020.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to health insurance benefits; and prescribing an effective date.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Essential Health Benefits Advisory Committee is established in the**
5 **Department of Consumer and Business Services consisting of 10 voting members appointed**
6 **by the Governor. Five members shall be representatives of insurers offering health insurance**
7 **in this state, and five members shall be representatives of health care consumers and health**
8 **care providers. The Insurance Commissioner, if a commissioner is appointed under ORS**
9 **705.115, shall serve as an ex officio nonvoting member of the committee or may designate a**
10 **person to act in the commissioner's place. If a commissioner is not appointed under ORS**
11 **705.115, the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services shall serve as**
12 **an ex officio nonvoting member of the committee or may designate a person to act in the**
13 **director's place.**

14 **(2)(a) The committee shall advise the department on whether pending legislation that**
15 **requires health benefit plan coverage of a specific health benefit in addition to the existing**
16 **essential health benefits, as defined in ORS 731.097, will require the state to make payments**
17 **to defray the cost of the additional benefit in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 18031(d)(3)(B). The**
18 **director shall consider the recommendations of the committee in the department's determi-**
19 **nation of, and the report to the Legislative Assembly on, whether the legislation will require**
20 **a defrayal and the fiscal impact of the defrayal.**

21 **(b) The commissioner or the director may seek advice from the committee on other re-**
22 **lated matters as deemed appropriate by the commissioner or the director.**

23 **(3) The director shall select one member to serve as chairperson and another as vice**
24 **chairperson, for terms and with duties and powers necessary for the performance of the**
25 **functions of the offices as the director determines.**

26 **(4) A majority of the members of the committee constitutes a quorum for the transaction**
27 **of business.**

28 **(5) The committee shall meet as necessary to respond in a timely manner to pending**

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 legislation when the Legislative Assembly is in session, at a time and place determined by
2 the commissioner or the director. The committee also may meet at other times and places
3 specified by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the members of the committee.

4 (6) The term of office of each member of the committee is four years, but a member
5 serves at the pleasure of the Governor. Before the expiration of the term of a member, the
6 Governor shall appoint a successor whose term begins on January 2 next following. A mem-
7 ber is eligible for reappointment. If there is a vacancy for any cause, the Governor shall
8 make an appointment to become immediately effective for the unexpired term.

9 (7)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, a member of the committee
10 is not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serves as a volunteer on
11 the committee.

12 (b) At the discretion of the commissioner or the director, a member of the committee
13 may be reimbursed from funds available to the department for actual travel and other ex-
14 penses incurred by the member in the member's performance of official duties as provided
15 in ORS 292.495 if necessary to ensure the member's participation on the committee.

16 **SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding the term of office specified by section 1 of this 2020 Act,
17 of the members first appointed to the Essential Health Benefits Advisory Committee:

18 (1) One member representing insurers and one member representing health care con-
19 sumers and health care providers shall serve for a term ending December 31, 2023.

20 (2) Two members representing insurers and two members representing health care con-
21 sumers and health care providers shall serve for a term ending December 31, 2024.

22 (3) Two members representing insurers and two members representing health care con-
23 sumers and health care providers shall serve for a term ending December 31, 2025.

24 **SECTION 3.** The Governor shall first appoint the members of the Essential Health Ben-
25 efits Advisory Committee no later than February 1, 2021.

26 **SECTION 4.** Section 1 of this 2020 Act becomes operative on January 1, 2021.

27 **SECTION 5.** This 2020 Act takes effect on October 1, 2020.
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