

SB 584 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 3/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to administer a program to provide Medicaid to employed individuals with disabilities including coordination of benefits if individual has employer-sponsored coverage. Prohibits OHA from considering an individual's income, financial resources, or age in determining program eligibility. Allows OHA to determine premium or cost-sharing requirements. Requires OHA to seek federal approval. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the United States Department of Labor, the Medicaid “buy-in” program refers to the Medicaid eligibility groups that serve workers with disabilities whose income or assets exceed other eligibility criteria. The majority of states operate Medicaid buy-in programs. States may assess individuals working with a disability a premium as a condition of participation. Workers with disabilities may enroll in Medicaid to supplement coverage not provided by Medicare and/or private insurance, such as personal care attendant services, dental coverage, and other community-based long-term care services.

Oregon’s Department of Human Services (DHS) operates the Employed Persons with Disability Program (EPD) to allow an individual with a disability to be employed and access Medicaid coverage through the Oregon Health Plan (OHP). Individuals are eligible if their adjusted earned income is less than 250 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL), and they do not exceed the \$5,000 asset limit (excludes spouse). Based on an individual’s monthly income, DHS charges an enrollee a monthly participating fee ranging from \$0 up to \$150 (250 percent of FPL, approximately \$2,684 per month).

Senate Bill 584 modifies Medicaid eligibility requirements for employed persons with disabilities.