

HB 2977 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/4, 3/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Makes appropriation to Oregon Health Authority for dental director position. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: statement issued - no revenue impact.

FISCAL: statement issued - see statement for analysis.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Integration of oral health into the health care system
- History, functions, and benefits of dental director position

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 672 (2015) required the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to appoint a dental director to oversee programs operated by OHA that increase access to oral health services, preventative oral health activities, and other initiatives that address oral health disparities in the state. The dental director must be a licensed dentist who is in good standing with the Board of Dentistry. The dental director is charged with promoting oral health in the state, including making recommendations and issuing guidance to OHA and other state agencies, and monitoring, studying, and appraising the oral health needs and resources of residents. The dental director also serves as liaison for providing information to dental communities and the public.

House Bill 2977 appropriates funds to the Oregon Health Authority for the dental director position.