

HB 2316 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health

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Meeting Dates: 2/8, 3/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Transfers responsibility for administering Housing for Mental Health Fund from Housing and Community Services Department (HCSD) to Oregon Health Authority(OHA). Transfers responsibility for convening advisory group from HCSD to OHA . Replaces OHA staff person on advisory group with staff person from HCSD.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Funding for mental health
- Types and limits of housing projects
- History of Housing for Mental Health Fund

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Establishes the Behavioral Health Housing Incentive Fund. Directs Oregon Health Authority to administer funds. Repeals the Housing for Mental Health Fund on June 30, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Legislature established the Housing for Mental Health Fund in 2015 when it dedicated \$20 million in lottery bonds and housed the fund in the Housing and Community Services Department (HCSD). These funds were allocated to provide financial assistance for the development, acquisition, renovation or improvement of affordable housing for Oregonians who have mental illnesses or addiction disorders. In 2017, The Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 3063 which appropriated money to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for implementation and to fund the Mental Health Housing Fund. The measure also specified the maximum allocation of the fund towards certain construction and start-up costs and required OHA to convene advisory group to make recommendations for the Mental Health Housing Fund regarding allocation of money, housing proposals and processing applications.

House Bill 2316 transfers responsibility for administering Housing for Mental Health Fund from HCSD to OHA.