

HB 2361 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health

Prepared By: Zoe Larmer, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/1, 4/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prioritizes access to health care provider incentive program by behavioral health service providers serving Latino, Latina, and Latinx individuals serving Morrow, Malheur, Hood River, and Umatilla counties. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of culturally appropriate services
- Barriers to service in rural communities
- Current workforce incentive program

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Adds Jackson county to the list of counties prioritized.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Legislature established the Oregon Health Care Provider Incentive fund with the passage of HB 3396 (2015). This legislation combined the Primary Care Provider Loan Repayment Fund, the Primary Health Care Loan Forgiveness Fund, and other moneys to create financial incentives to recruit and retain healthcare providers.

In 2017, the Oregon Legislature passed HB 3261 requiring the Oregon Health Policy Board to collaborate with the Office of Rural Health to develop a uniform application form for program participants and modified eligibility requirements for rural medical care tax credit and health care provider incentive program for rural or medically underserved areas.

House Bill 2361 prioritizes access to health care provider incentive programs by behavioral health service providers serving Latino, Latina, and Latinx individuals in Morrow, Malheur, Hood River, and Umatilla counties.