SB 703 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery

Prepared By:C. Ross, CounselMeeting Dates:3/16, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires annual report by January 31 pursuant to parameters adopted by the regulating agency, from caregiver registries, home health agencies, and in-home care agencies to the Department of Human Services (DHS); and from residential care facilities to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Direct DHS and OHA to adopt parameters that may be inspired by the Quality Measurement Council, that encourage quality without being overburdensome. Directs DHS and OHA to compile respective reports and publish specified information, along with information provided through the Residential Care Quality Measurement Program, that allows the public to compare subject entities . Defines terms. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Work and collaboration in 2016 to create the current quality measurement process; impact on the current process
- Authority vested with the Council and current status of Program
- Delay with first year of data collection (2020) largely due to length of appointment process, large volume of work to get underway, then pandemic; otherwise on track
- Trend with respect to the acquisition of care facilities by shareholder-owned businesses for investment and business development purposes
- Aligning metrics with residents' most common concern: inadequate staff and direct impact on quality of care

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

[-3 amendment dated 3/8/21] Replaces reference to caregiver registries, home health agencies, and in-home care agencies, with reference to residential care facilities and incorporates statutory definition. Removes obligations imposed on OHA. Adds two representatives from labor unions that advocate for direct care workers, to the Quality Measurement Council.

[-4 amendment dated 4/8/21] Replaces the measure. Adds one member to the Quality Measurement Council to represent direct care workers. Requires residential care facilities to provide DHS with the same information they are currently required to provide to residents who request it or to persons who apply for admission, every time there is a change of facility management or ownership. Requires DHS to publish the information on its website. Requires DHS to evaluate the cost of care, medical assistance reimbursements, and direct care compensation, as specified, at certain facilities and report to the legislature by January 1, 2023. Authorizes contracting with a third party. Prohibits over-burdening facilities with requests for information and requires DHS to publish the results. Sunsets reporting requirement January 2, 2023 and removes emergency clause.

BACKGROUND:

The Residential Care Quality Measurement Program (Program) within the Department of Human Services (DHS) and a corresponding advisory body, the Quality Measurement Council (Council), were created via House Bill 3359 in 2017, following completion of a 2016 research study by the Institute on Aging at Portland State University. House Bill 3359 requires the Council to work with DHS to develop a quality metrics reporting system so that the performance of residential care facilities and assisted living facilities may be evaluated. Care facilities then report the required information to DHS annually, and DHS prepares and publishes a statewide report. Data collection began in 2020 and is due to be reported in 2021.