

HB 2397 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services

Action Date: 03/17/21

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.
(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Leif, Noble, Owens, Ruiz, Sanchez, Schouten, Williams

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/3, 3/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Senior Emergency Medical Services Innovation Program in the Department of Human Services (DHS) to fund and monitor pilot projects effecting emergency care for seniors as specified, using moneys in the Quality Care Fund. Establishes the Senior Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (Council), to advise and make recommendations to DHS. Specifies composition and duties of Council, staffed by DHS. Requires report from DHS to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the legislature. Prohibits local governing bodies from enforcing any local ordinance or resolution affecting residents of long term or residential care facilities regulated by DHS. Prohibits local governing bodies from assessing fees or imposing other requirements only on long term or residential care facilities. Provides for certain exceptions. Sunsets January 2, 2027.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Local ordinances and fees specifically applicable to long term care facilities
- Long term care facilities acting as guardians for individuals in specific situations
- Distinctions between different types of long term facilities and impacts from proposed measure
- Expanding council membership to represent families of residents of long term facilities

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Modifies Council membership to include one member representing private emergency medical services providers and one member who is either a family member of a resident in a facility, or a caregiver in a facility, or who belongs to a group that advocates on behalf of seniors residing in facilities.

BACKGROUND:

Long term care facilities are defined as providing medical services, including skilled nursing and treatment for two or more unrelated patients. Residential care facilities are defined as providing care in one or more buildings on contiguous properties for six or more socially dependent individuals or individuals with physical disabilities; or for fewer than six socially dependent individuals or individuals with physical disabilities if the purpose of the facility is to serve individuals with co-occurring behavioral health needs who are more appropriately served in smaller settings. The number of aging residents in these facilities is increasing.

House Bill 2397 A creates the Senior Emergency Medical Services Innovation Program and a corresponding advisory body, the Senior Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council, to support pilot projects concerned with residents who are aging in long term and residential care facilities, and report to the legislature. The measure also prohibits local governing bodies from taking local action affecting long term or residential care facilities within their jurisdictions that are already regulated by DHS, with some exceptions. Provisions of the measure sunset January 2, 2027.