

## SB 12 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Health Care

---

**Action Date:** 04/05/21

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

**Vote:** 4-0-1-0

**Yeas:** 4 - Beyer, Knopp, Manning Jr, Patterson

**Exc:** 1 - Heard

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Brian Nieubuert, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/24, 4/5

---

#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to study possibilities for importation and health insurance coverage for travel for public employees to obtain pharmaceuticals from Mexico and Canada. Requires OHA to report to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2022. Sunsets provisions on January 2, 2023.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Similar program in Utah
- Potential savings

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

According to a 2021 RAND report, prescription drug prices in the United States average 2.56 times those seen in 32 other nations. The disparity is especially prevalent for brand-name drugs where prices in the United States average 3.44 times those in comparison nations. According to a 2016 Kaiser Family Foundation poll, 19 million American adults (or eight percent of the population) imported drugs from Canada or other countries to save money.

Senate Bill 12 A requires the Oregon Health Authority to study possibilities for public employees to obtain pharmaceuticals from Mexico and Canada.