

SB 610 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 04/05/21

Action: Do pass and requesting referral to Ways and Means.

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 Nieubuurt, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/3, 4/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates psychology provider incentive program in the Oregon Health Authority to provide housing support and loan repayment subsidies to students enrolled in approved doctoral programs in psychology and licensed psychologists in Oregon who complete courses that provide cultural competency training. Requires Department of Public Safety Standards and Training to provide guaranteed full-time employment to qualified licensed psychologist who has completed required cultural competency training coursework and applies for vacant position. Requires public employers to grant hiring preference to qualified, licensed psychologist who has completed required cultural competency training coursework and applies for vacant civil service position or promotion. Establishes Psychology Provider Incentive Fund. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Incentives for psychology doctoral students to receive cultural competency training
- Priority employment for counselors who receive cultural competency training

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2611, passed by the Legislative Assembly in 2013, allowed specified health care professional regulatory boards, including the Board of Psychology, to adopt rules that require licensees to receive cultural competency continuing education (CCCE). The bill required that the specified board track and report the boards' CCCE requirements and their respective licensees'/members' CCCE participation levels to the Oregon Health Authority. In 2019, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 2011, which directs, instead of voluntarily allows, the specified health care professional boards to require people authorized to practice the profession regulated by the board to complete CCCE.

Senate Bill 610 creates a psychology provider incentive program to provide financial incentives to psychology doctoral students and licensed psychologists who complete courses that provide cultural competency training.