

HB 3069 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health

Action Date: 04/12/21

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Revenue. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 6-3-0-0

Yeas: 6 - Lively, Nosse, Reynolds, Salinas, Sanchez, Sollman

Nays: 3 - Moore-Green, Morgan, Wright

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

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Meeting Dates: 3/31, 4/5, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines terms. Establishes statewide coordinated crisis service system. Directs Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to require community mental health programs or authority provide community-based rapid crisis response services for individuals in need contacting the 9-8-8 suicide prevention and behavioral health crisis hotline. Becomes operative July 16, 2022. Establishes the 9-8-8 Fund for supporting the operation of the 9-8-8 system. Establishes tax for consumers and paying retail subscribers who have telecommunications services or interconnected voice over internet protocol service. Prohibits local government from charging a fee or surcharge for 9-8-8 services. Allows OHA to establish committees or assign tasks to existing agencies, boards or committees to accomplish planning required for implementation and ongoing oversight of the statewide coordinated crisis service system. Aligns 9-8-8 to coordinate crisis service with 9-1-1 liability and confidentiality laws. Specifies that a provider or seller may combine taxes on one return. Requires that the tax be identified as 'State 911/988 Tax' and that the respective amounts of each tax collected be reported to the Department of Revenue. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- National Suicide Hotline Designation Act
- Need for behavioral health crisis services
- Logistics of implementation

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

In 2020, the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act authorized 9-8-8 as the three-digit number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The act requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to designate 9-8-8 as the universal telephone number for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline. The law also allows states to impose and collect a fee for providing 9-8-8 related services, but specifies that this fee must be held in a designated account to be spent only in support of 9-8-8 services. The act also requires that the FCC submit an annual report on state administration of these fees and that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Veterans Affairs jointly report on how to make the use of 9-8-8 operational and effective across the country. It further specifies that HHS develop a strategy to provide access to competent, specialized services for high-risk populations such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) youth; minorities; and rural individuals.

House Bill 3069 A establishes Oregon's coordinated crisis system and 9-8-8 Fund.