

## SB 800 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Health Care

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**Action Date:** 04/12/21

**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:** Revenue impact issued

**Prepared By:** Oliver Droppers, LPRO Analyst

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

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Oregon Essential Workforce Health Care Program (Program) in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to provide health care to employees of qualified facility operators participating in the state's medical assistance program. Allows OHA to provide additional medical assistance payments to eligible employers participating in Program. Establishes Oregon Essential Workforce Health Care Trust Fund and specifies funding and uses. Appropriates unspecified funds. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impacts of COVID-19 on long term and congregate care workers
- Prevalence of lack of insurance among long term care workers
- Long term care staffing shortages
- Potential availability of federal funds
- Size and composition of long term care workforce

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

Long term care refers to a range of services that help people who can no longer meet their own daily needs. These services can be home-based to allow a person's ability to stay independent and safe in their home with the support of a homecare or personal support worker. Residential care and assisted living facilities also offer different levels of support, services, and amenities for people with long term care needs. A Kaiser Family Foundation analysis found that 14 percent of long term care health workers lack health insurance coverage.

Senate Bill 800 A establishes the Oregon Essential Workforce Health Care Program to provide health care to employees of qualified facility operators participating in the state's medical assistance program.