

SB 820 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

Action Date: 04/13/21

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

Vote: 4-2-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Dembrow, Gelser, Manning Jr, Prozanski

Nays: 2 - Linthicum, Thatcher

Exc: 1 - Heard

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Amie Fender-Sosa, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/31, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Removes the certification exception (for certified sexual offense therapists) for a person employed by a local, state or federal government agency, community mental health program, or drug and alcohol treatment program licensed or certified in this state, if the person's activities and services are performed and provided within the person's scope of employment. Appropriates an unspecified amount to the Oregon Youth Authority from the General Fund for the purpose of complying with the measure. Sets operative date of removal of the exemption to May 31, 2022. Allows affected agencies to take actions necessary to comply before the operative date. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Requiring proper training, oversight, and accountability for all providers
- Need for Oregon Youth Authority to build a pool of certified providers

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Appropriates an unspecified amount to the Oregon Youth Authority from the General Fund for the purpose of complying with the measure. Sets operative date of removal of the exemption to May 31, 2022. Allows affected agencies to take actions necessary to comply before the operative date.

BACKGROUND:

The Sexual Offense Treatment Board (SOTB) was established in 2017 to provide oversight of and establish standards of practice for all professionals providing sexual abuse specific treatment services in Oregon. The Board oversees the practices of clinical, secondary, associate, and intern sexual offense therapists, and is housed within the Oregon Health Authority Health Licensing Office. Currently there is a certification exception for persons providing sexual offense therapy while working for the government. The Oregon Youth Authority is the only known agency currently utilizing the exemption.

Senate Bill 820 A would require persons who provide sexual offense therapy in the course and scope of their employment with the government to be certified by the Sexual Offense Treatment Board.