

HB 2119 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Anderson

Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery

Action Date: 05/11/21

Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 4-1-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Anderson, Gelser, Lieber, Taylor

Nays: 1 - Robinson

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: C. Ross, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 5/4, 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Transfers responsibility for the 2-1-1 system from the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to the Department of Human Services (DHS). Directs DHS to consult with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to administer and manage the 2-1-1 system.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Since 2000, the Federal Communications Commission has designated “2-1-1” as an information and referral service line. In many states, a caller in need of assistance can dial 2-1-1 to obtain a referral or be connected with appropriate agencies or community-based health and human services organizations that offer a variety of programs, including physical and mental health resources; work support; access to services in languages other than English; support for older persons and persons with disabilities; children, youth and family supports; and suicide prevention. In 2005, the responsibility for a federally funded 2-1-1 system was placed with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), but federal funds were never made available and OEM never engaged in administration. Oregon's 2-1-1 system has been operated by a nonprofit organization called 211info since 2004.

House Bill 2119 A transfers responsibility for administration of the 2-1-1 system from OEM to the Department of Human Services (DHS) and enables DHS to receive federal funds intended for administration of the 2-1-1 system.