

HB 4070 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health

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Meeting Dates: 2/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes the Director of the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to appoint members to the Consumer Advisory Council (Council) from a list of consumer candidates submitted by existing consumer members on the Council, or by a seven-member subcommittee appointed by the Council. Expands and modifies the Council's advisory duties as permitted by federal law and in accordance with existing Oregon law (ORS 430.071, 2021). Takes effect 90 days upon passage.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Created in 2007, the Oregon Consumer Advisory Council (OCAC) advises the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on how to increase access to behavioral health services based on consumer community perspective and policies that promote self-determination for individuals receiving mental health or addiction services. Currently, the Director of OHA is responsible for appointing 15 to 25 consumers, who are eligible for travel expenses.

In 2021, the Legislative Assembly considered Senate Bill 721, which sought to modify the appointing authority for Council membership; instead of the OHA Director appointing members, the existing members of the Consumer Advisory Council would select new members or convene a seven-member subcommittee of current members to select new members. Governor Brown [vetoed](#) SB 721 to avoid a conflict with federal Medicaid law as the measure would have delegated OHA's authority to "approve" policies for Medicaid-funded mental health and substance use disorder programs to the Council.

House Bill 4070 modifies the appointing authority for Council membership; instead of the OHA Director appointing members, the existing members of the Consumer Advisory Council will select new members or convene a seven-member subcommittee of current members to select new members. The measure also clarifies that the role of the Council in terms of review OHA policy.