SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 4004

Relating to financial resources available to provide care

To: Ways and Means Full Committee From: Human Services Subcommittee

Carrier: Representative Nosse

HB 4004 directs the Oregon Health Authority to implement a grant program and contract with staff to provide care in residential treatment facilities to address shortages in Oregon's behavioral health workforce.

The measure appropriates \$132.3 million General Fund to OHA for one-time grants distributed to behavioral health providers to increase practitioner wages, offer retention bonuses, or recruit and hire new behavioral health staff. Providers must use at least 75% of their grants on direct compensation to their staff, with the remainder allowed to be spent on other means to increase workforce retention and recruitment. OHA is also directed to contract with nurses and behavioral health professionals to provide care in residential treatment facilities experiencing staffing shortages caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and will support these costs with FEMA reimbursement or seek other forms of federal financial participation, if necessary.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends HB 4004 be amended by the -A4 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.