

HB 2732 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/2, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Child Abuse Assessment Account that is separate and distinct from the General Fund. States funding sources for the account. Appropriates \$6 million to the account from the General Fund. Directs moneys to be continuously appropriated to the Department of Justice (DOJ) for the purposes of grant programs for Children's Advocacy Centers. Directs the administrator of the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program (CAMI) to develop and administer a grant program, separate from the current grant program. Allocates moneys to eligible children's advocacy centers, using the same formula used by the Attorney General for equitable distribution of the account for victims' assistance programs, while taking into consideration the size of each children's advocacy center's service area and the associated increased cost of equitably providing services to all victims within that area. Specifies that moneys allocated under this subsection may not be used as replacement revenues for currently available funds previously allocated by the county for children's advocacy centers. Takes effect on the 91st day after sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Allows the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program, if unable to distribute any moneys allocated to a specified children's advocacy center, to reallocate the undistributed moneys to one or more other eligible children's advocacy centers or to the statewide membership organization of children's advocacy centers.

BACKGROUND:

The Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program (CAMI) within the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) currently allocates funds to eligible county child abuse multidisciplinary teams, and entities designated by such teams, that serve the county where funds were collected, primarily to support child abuse investigation training and education for personnel who are not law enforcement, through an existing Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Account. Child abuse intervention centers that provide medical assessments, treatment, and safety, are an integral part of the multidisciplinary approach to prevent and respond to allegations of child abuse.

House Bill 2732 appropriates \$6 million to the DOJ for distribution by CAMI to support local and regional child advocacy centers through a corresponding, discrete Child Abuse Assessment Account.