

SB 492 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 3/22, 3/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) from using the measure of quality life years (QALY) for determinations about coverage of treatment. Requires OHA to establish a process for a health care provider to request approval for a service not considered medically necessary and allows for appeal of any denied request. Prohibits the Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) from meeting in an executive session to deliberate on matters presented by advisory committees, subcommittees, or an expert panel. Prohibits HERC from contracting with a single vendor for research and analysis. Requires HERC to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly on February 1 of each year on the impact of the prioritized list.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Within the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), the Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC) determines which health care conditions and corresponding treatments will be funded with Medicaid dollars on Oregon’s prioritized list. Quality Adjusted Life Year (QALY) refers to a measure of health outcomes used to make decisions regarding health resource allocation for different interventions and to evaluate the cost effectiveness of treatment.

Senate Bill 492 prohibits the use of quality life years (QALY) and requires the Oregon Health Authority to create a new process for health care providers to request approval for services not on the prioritized list.