

HB 2651 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/1, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$81 million from the General Fund to Oregon Health Authority for specified purposes related to expanding behavioral health workforce. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- House Bill 2949 (2021)
- Financial constraints of entering behavioral health workforce

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Eliminates \$6 million appropriation to OHA for behavioral health care provider supervision grant program.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

REVENUE: No revenue impact

BACKGROUND:

In 2021, the Oregon Legislature invested \$1.35 billion in the state's behavioral health system to improve the state's behavioral health crisis system, support the implementation of Measure 110 (2020), increase access to residential treatment, and support behavioral health workforce recruitment and retention. That same year, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 2949, directing the Oregon Health Authority to provide incentives to increase the recruitment and retention of a culturally responsive behavioral health workforce. In 2022, House Bill 4071 updated the description of individuals eligible for these incentives.

House Bill 2651 would appropriate \$81 million to the Oregon Health Authority for specified purposes related to expanding the state's behavioral health workforce.