

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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Representative Tawna Sanchez, House Co-Chair

Senator Fred Girod, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Representative David Gomberg, House Co-Vice Chair
Representative Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

Amanda Beitel, Legislative Fiscal Officer
Tom MacDonald, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer (Budget)
Paul Siebert, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer (Audit/IT)

To: Human Services Subcommittee

From: MaryMichelle Sosne, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: May 30, 2023

Subject: HB 2994– Relating to hearing; creating new provisions.
Work Session Recommendations

HB 2994 modifies coverage requirements for hearing-related items and services for health benefit plans and coordinated care organizations.

Coordinated care organizations are required to provide bilateral cochlear implants, hearing aids, and hearing assistive technology systems to medical assistance recipients who are 18 years old or younger. Health benefit plans are required to reimburse the cost for an audiologist to fit, program, or reprogram bilateral or unilateral cochlear implants or other assistive listening devices without requiring a deductible. The measure requires reimbursement for prescribed hearing or listening devices or services, regardless of the availability of over-the-counter devices or services.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the –A4 amendment. The -A4 amendment includes \$517,750 Other Funds for the expected .04% premium increase for the Oregon Educators Benefit Board.

MOTION: I move adoption of the –A4 amendment to HB 2994. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 2994, as amended by the –A4 amendment, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move HB 2994, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____