

SB 514 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 03/01/23

Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Bonham, Campos, Gorsek, Hayden, Patterson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Maya Green, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/13, 3/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes an Adult Suicide Prevention Coordinator within the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Establishes an Adult Suicide Prevention Advisory Committee, with members to be appointed by the Director of OHA, to advise the authority on strategies to prevent suicide. Requires the Adult Suicide Prevention Coordinator to work with the advisory committee to prepare an annual report with recommendations for administrative and legislative changes to address gaps in suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention. Requires the suicide prevention coordinator and the advisory committee to update the statewide strategic plan at a minimum of once every five years. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Existing resources for youth suicide prevention
- Suicide mortality rates for adults

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), suicide is one of the leading causes of premature death in Oregon ([link](#) to 2019 OHA overview). Citing data from the Centers for Disease Control, OHA found that suicide rates in Oregon have consistently been higher than national rates for the past 30 years. OHA reports that the number of deaths related to suicide in 2022 is similar to previous years ([link](#) to 2023 Suicide-related Public Health Surveillance Update).

In Oregon, programs related to adult suicide prevention include the 988 Suicide & Crisis Hotline, county crisis hotlines, and the OHA's Suicide Prevention Team. Youth suicide prevention programs include the Youth Suicide Intervention and Prevention Plan, a five-year plan supported by the University of Oregon's Suicide Prevention Lab, the Oregon Alliance to Prevent Suicide, and OHA's Suicide Prevention Team.

Senate Bill 514 establishes an Adult Suicide Prevention Coordinator and advisory committee within the Oregon Health Authority and directs it to develop a five-year plan and to advise OHA on suicide prevention among adults.