

Senate Bill 441

Sponsored by Senator HAYDEN (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Creates dental care provider incentive grant program within Oregon Health Authority to increase recruitment and retention of dental care providers.

Directs authority to increase incentives available to dentists through health care provider incentive program.

Directs State Workforce and Talent Development Board to create and maintain dental assistant training module available to public free of cost.

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to award grants to community colleges to develop and support training programs for dental assistants and dental hygienists.

Directs Department of Education to provide funding to public schools for development and expansion of educational programming on dental care provider professions for students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to dental care providers; and prescribing an effective date.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "dental care provider" means:**

5 (a) A dental assistant, a dental hygienist, a dental technician, a dental therapist, a den-
6 tist and an expanded practice dental hygienist, as those terms are defined in ORS 679.010;
7 and

8 (b) A federally certified dental health aide therapist or tribally authorized dental thera-
9 pist.

10 (2) There is created within the Oregon Health Authority a dental care provider incentive
11 grant program for the purpose of increasing recruitment and retention of dental care pro-
12 viders in this state. The authority may consult or contract with the Office of Rural Health
13 established under ORS 442.475 to develop and maintain the dental care provider incentive
14 grant program.

15 (3) The authority shall adopt rules to carry out this section. The rules adopted under this
16 subsection must:

17 (a) Establish eligibility criteria for grant recipients, including requirements that a grant
18 recipient:

19 (A) Is a dental care provider, federally qualified health center or other entity serving
20 patients enrolled in Medicare or the state medical assistance program; and

21 (B) Must focus on mentoring youth interested in a dental care profession; and

22 (b) Prioritize awarding grants to the nine federally recognized Indian tribes in this state,
23 low-income communities, communities in rural areas and communities in areas that are
24 underserved by dental care providers.

25 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section, "dentist" has the meaning given that term in**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **ORS 679.010.**

2 (2) The Oregon Health Authority shall increase the incentives available through the
3 health care provider incentive program established under ORS 676.454 to health care provid-
4 ers who are dentists.

5 **SECTION 3.** (1) As used in this section, “dental assistant” has the meaning given that
6 term in ORS 679.010.

7 (2) The State Workforce and Talent Development Board shall create and maintain a
8 dental assistant training module that is available to members of the public free of cost.

9 **SECTION 4.** (1) As used in this section, “dental assistant” and “dental hygienist” have
10 the meanings given those terms in ORS 679.010.

11 (2) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall award grants to community
12 colleges in this state to support the development and marketing of, increased enrollment in
13 and scholarships available for training programs for dental assistants and dental hygienists.
14 The commission shall disburse grant funds awarded under this section not later than August
15 1 of each year.

16 (3) The commission shall adopt rules to carry out this section, including rules to require
17 that a community college submit a written application to the commission.

18 **SECTION 5.** (1) As used in this section, “dental care provider” has the meaning given
19 that term in section 1 of this 2023 Act.

20 (2) The Department of Education shall support, by providing funding to public schools,
21 the development and expansion of educational programming on dental care provider pro-
22 fessions. The educational programming must be available to and appropriate for students in
23 each grade from kindergarten through grade 12. A public school may submit a written re-
24 quest to the department for funding. The department shall disburse funds to public schools
25 not later than August 1 of each year.

26 (3) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to carry out this section.

27 **SECTION 6.** There is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium be-
28 ginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of
29 carrying out the provisions of section 1 of this 2023 Act.

30 **SECTION 7.** There is appropriated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium be-
31 ginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$700,000 for the purpose of
32 carrying out section 2 of this 2023 Act.

33 **SECTION 8.** There is appropriated to the State Workforce and Talent Development
34 Board, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of
35 \$2,000,000 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 3 of this 2023 Act.

36 **SECTION 9.** There is appropriated to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, for
37 the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$5,000,000 for
38 the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 4 of this 2023 Act.

39 **SECTION 10.** There is appropriated to the Department of Education, for the biennium
40 beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$5,000,000 for the purpose of
41 carrying out the provisions of section 5 of this 2023 Act.

42 **SECTION 11.** (1) Sections 1 to 5 of this 2023 Act become operative on January 1, 2024.

43 (2) The Oregon Health Authority, Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Depart-
44 ment of Education, State Board of Education and State Workforce and Talent Development
45 Board may take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this sec-

1 tion that is necessary to enable the authority, commission, department and boards to exer-
2 cise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the
3 duties, functions and powers conferred on the authority, commission, department and boards
4 by sections 1 to 5 of this 2023 Act.

5 SECTION 12. This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023
6 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

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