

## HB 4151 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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**Action Date:** 02/12/24

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.  
(Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 11-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 11 - Bowman, Conrad, Dexter, Diehl, Goodwin, Javadi, Nelson, Nosse, Pham H, Tran, Yunker

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Brian Nieuburt, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/5, 2/12

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the System of Care Advisory Council (Council) to convene a subcommittee on the youth behavioral health workforce.

#### Detailed Summary:

Specifies subcommittee membership. Requires the Council to appoint a community member to the subcommittee if no council member meets specified criteria. Requires the subcommittee to identify state-issued professional authorization options for existing and emerging behavioral health professions and determine structures and supports needed to sustain the youth behavioral health workforce. Specifies additional subcommittee duties. Requires the subcommittee to submit an initial report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024, and a final report by December 15, 2025. Sunsets the subcommittee on December 31, 2025. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current gap in youth behavioral health needs and state workforce capacity
- Ballmer Institute for Children's Behavioral Health

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

According to [Mental Health America](#), Oregon ranks last (51<sup>st</sup>) for prevalence of youth mental illness and lower rates of access to care. This includes being among the three states with the highest prevalence of youth with at least one major depressive episode (21.13 percent), severe major depressive episode (19 percent), and substance use disorder (7.97 percent).

The [Ballmer Institute for Children's Behavioral Health](#), established at the University of Oregon in March 2022, is the first program to offer an undergraduate degree in child behavioral health. Graduates of the Ballmer Institute will accumulate over 700 hours of supervised community-based practice in Portland area K12 schools, health care systems, and other community settings.