

SENATE AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 1594

By COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

February 19

- 1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “providers” insert “; and declaring an emergency”.
- 2 Delete lines 4 through 19 and delete pages 2 and 3.
- 3 On page 4, delete line 1 and insert:
- 4 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Improving the Safety of Behavioral Health Workers**
- 5 **is established.**
- 6 **“(2) The task force consists of 16 members appointed as follows:**
- 7 **“(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the**
- 8 **Senate.**
- 9 **“(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among**
- 10 **members of the House of Representatives.**
- 11 **“(c) The President and the Speaker shall jointly appoint:**
- 12 **“(A) Four employers of behavioral health workers including one from county govern-**
- 13 **ment;**
- 14 **“(B) Two behavioral health workers;**
- 15 **“(C) Two representatives of organized labor representing behavioral health workers;**
- 16 **“(D) One consumer of behavioral health services; and**
- 17 **“(E) One representative of the state protection and advocacy system described in ORS**
- 18 **192.517 (1).**
- 19 **“(d) The Governor shall appoint:**
- 20 **“(A) One member from the Governor’s staff; and**
- 21 **“(B) One member from the Occupational Safety and Health Division of the Department**
- 22 **of Consumer and Business Services.**
- 23 **“(3) The task force shall produce a set of recommendations for improving the safety of**
- 24 **behavioral health workers.**
- 25 **“(4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the**
- 26 **transaction of business.**
- 27 **“(5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting**
- 28 **members of the task force.**
- 29 **“(6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.**
- 30 **“(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
- 31 **ment to become immediately effective.**
- 32 **“(8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson**
- 33 **or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.**
- 34 **“(9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**
- 35 **“(10) No later than September 1, 2024, the task force shall submit to the interim com-**

1 mittees of the Legislative Assembly related to health a preliminary report containing draft
2 policy recommendations for improving worker safety.

3 “(11) No later than December 1, 2024, the task force shall report the task force’s final
4 recommendations, in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, to the interim committees of the
5 Legislative Assembly related to health. The report shall also contain legislative proposals, for
6 consideration by the committees, to address the safety concerns that are prevalent in the
7 behavioral health industry, including but not limited to proposals for:

8 “(a) Minimum structural security requirements for behavioral health settings;

9 “(b) Safe staffing levels;

10 “(c) Standards for reporting assaults;

11 “(d) Updating the safety training for workers;

12 “(e) Minimum requirements for training workers with respect to workplace safety pro-
13 tocols;

14 “(f) Minimum standards for safety protocols and procedures;

15 “(g) Incentive-based programs and enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance with
16 all worker safety and training requirements; and

17 “(h) Potential funding mechanisms to pay for the requirements.

18 “(12) The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall provide staff support to the task
19 force and the Legislative Counsel shall provide legal support for the drafting of legislative
20 proposals.

21 “(13) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting
22 members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

23 “(14) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly or
24 Governor appointees shall be paid compensation and reimbursed for actual and necessary
25 travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties on the
26 task force in the manner and amounts provided for in ORS 292.495.

27 “(15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
28 the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted
29 by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
30 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

31 “SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2024 Act is repealed on December 31, 2025.”.

32 After line 17, insert:

33 “SECTION 5. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appro-
34 priated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, out of the
35 General Fund, the amount of \$1,000,000, which shall be distributed to the United We Heal
36 Training Trust to be used for providing grants to improve the safety of workers in behavioral
37 health settings.

38 “SECTION 6. This 2024 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
39 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2024 Act takes effect
40 on its passage.”.