

## HB 2943 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/11

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires hospitals to conduct specific tests when an individual consents to having a blood sample taken in a hospital emergency department.

#### Detailed Summary

- Requires hospital to use blood specimen to test for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and syphilis when an individual consents to receiving medical care in a hospital emergency department and has blood sample taken
- Prohibits hospital for conducting test if individual is able to grant or withhold consent
- Creates exemption for HIV test requirement if hospital has medical records showing individual has a history of a positive HIV test
- Requires health insurance policy to reimburse for costs of HIV and syphilis tests required by measure
- Appropriates unspecified funds to the Oregon Health Authority to dispense to counties in carrying out investigation and outreach related to increased HIV and syphilis testing

*FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.*

*REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.*

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is a virus that attacks the body's immune system, making a person more vulnerable to other infections and diseases. HIV is spread by contact with certain bodily fluids of an infected person, most commonly during unprotected sex or through sharing needles. If left untreated, HIV can lead to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). Syphilis is sexually transmitted infection (STI) that can stay in the body for years without causing symptoms. Easily treated by antibiotics, syphilis can damage the heart, brain, or other organs if not treated.

House Bill 2943 requires hospitals to perform tests for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and syphilis when an individual consents to receiving medical care in a hospital emergency department and has blood sample taken.