

SB 691 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure expands a project that advocates for improved maternal and neonatal outcomes and changes medical assistance coverage requirements for a person with a substance use disorder who is pregnant or the parent of an infant.

Detailed Summary:

Directs the Oregon Health Authority to allocate funds to Oregon Health & Sciences University to support projects that provide integrated perinatal care and substance use disorder treatment to people who are pregnant or parent to an infant.

- Creates new service sites and provides support to existing service sites.
- Allocates money from the General Fund to fund project expansion.

Requires the Oregon Health Authority and coordinated care organizations to cover certain services for people with a substance use disorder who are pregnant or parent to an infant.

- Requires coverage of peer support services in all clinical settings.
- Requires coverage of up to five days of a hospital inpatient stay for stabilization from opioid use during pregnancy.
- Requires coverage of up to five days of a hospital inpatient stay after delivery for medication management for substance use disorder, care coordination, social work support, breastfeeding support, and infant-family bonding.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Substance use disorder was identified as a contributing factor in 41% of pregnancy-related deaths in Oregon between 2017-2020 ([Oregon Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee Biennial Report, 2023](#)). In 2015, Project Nurture began to provide prenatal care, inpatient maternity care, and postpartum care for women with substance use disorders as well as pediatric care for their infants. Project Nurture was expanded by the Oregon Legislature in 2020 to provide services in rural areas including Deschutes, Jackson, Lincoln, Malheur, and Umatilla Counties ([Nurture Oregon Progress, 2023](#)).

[ORS 141](#) governs services covered to people accessing medical assistance, including services provided by peer support specialists. A clinic or organization can bill the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for services if the organization is enrolled with OHA as a Medicaid provider and has a certificate of approval as required by [ORS 430.637](#). Medical assistance will pay for hospital birth for all members.

SB 691 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

SB 691 allocates funding to Oregon Health & Sciences University to expand Project Nurture. It also requires the OHA and Coordinated Care Organizations to cover peer support services in any clinical setting as well as up to five days of inpatient hospital stay in certain situations when a person who is pregnant or has just delivered a baby has a substance use disorder.