

SB 692 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 directs the Oregon Health Authority to fund culturally specific perinatal care, expands coverage of doula services for people receiving medical assistance, and requires coverage of doula services by private health insurers.

Detailed Summary:

Establishes the Perinatal Services Provider Incentive Fund through the State Treasury.

- Defines perinatal services to include services provided by doulas, postpartum doulas, and lactation consultants.
- Directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish a community-based perinatal access program to increase access to and training of culturally specific perinatal service providers.
- Directs OHA to administer grants to culturally specific and nonprofit organizations to recruit and train perinatal service providers and build capacity to bill for provider services.
- Directs the State Treasury to appropriate funds to OHA.

Requires OHA and coordinated care organizations to cover certain perinatal services for recipients of medical assistance.

- Expands coverage of postpartum doula supports.
- Prohibits requiring referrals or supervision from any other health care provider.
- Directs OHA and coordinated care organizations to report on the status of doulas in the state.

Requires health insurers operating in Oregon to cover certain perinatal services.

- Sets minimum coverage requirements to include eight doula visits and 12 postpartum doula visits.
- Prohibits requirement of prior authorization, though cost-sharing provisions (deductible, copayment) may apply.

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:

Doulas are birth companions who provide personal, nonmedical support to birthing people and families throughout a person's pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum experience. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), in consultation with the Traditional Health Workers Commission, is responsible for the training requirements and credentialing of doulas in Oregon ([ORS 414.665](#); [OAR 950-060-0150](#)).

In 2011, [HB 3311](#) directed OHA to study ways to use doula care to improve birth outcomes for people receiving medical assistance. In 2014, Oregon began to cover doula services for birthing people on Medicaid. Since 2014, reimbursement for doula care has been raised twice, from [\\$75 to \\$350](#) in 2017 and from [\\$350 to \\$1,500](#) in 2022.

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

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The Oregon Health Authority will reimburse doulas for two prenatal visits, day of birth support, two postpartum visits, and up to four additional support visits to be completed any time during pregnancy or in the 12 months postpartum ([Doula Fee-for-Service Billing Guide](#), 2025). Doulas can also be reimbursed by certain Oregon Educators Benefit Board and Public Employee Benefit Board plans.

SB 692 directs the Oregon Health Authority to develop a funding mechanism to support culturally specific perinatal care providers, expands the coverage of doula and lactation consultant services to people receiving medical assistance, and mandates coverage of doula services by private health insurers operating in Oregon.