

HB 2729 -1, -3, -4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/5, 3/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

This measure requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish a minimum grant award for school-based health centers, to award grants to school districts or educational service districts for district planning and technical assistance, to develop and award grants for school-based mental health services and substance use prevention, to study reimbursements for mental health services and substance use prevention. The measure authorizes the Oregon Treasurer to issue lottery bonds for this act. The measure appropriates funds from the General Fund to OHA to carry out this 2025 act and takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

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

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

Detailed Summary

Section 1

Requires grants awarded to school-based health centers by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to have a minimum value \$66,000. Requires OHA to adjust the minimum grant amount annually based on inflation.

Section 2

Appropriates \$570,000 from the General Fund to OHA for Section 1.

Section 3

Defines school-based health center and school nurse model. Requires OHA and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to collaborate and select 10 school districts or education service districts to receive planning grants for district planning and technical assistance. Establishes program requirements for grantees.

Section 4

Appropriates \$700,000 from the General Fund to OHA to carry out Section 3.

Section 5

Requires OHA to develop and implement a grant program for school districts, educational service districts and entities to increase school based mental health services and substance use prevention and treatment services.

Section 6

Appropriates \$7,850,000 from the General Fund to OHA to carry out Section 5.

Section 7

Requires OHA to study methods for providing reimbursement for mental health services delivered by school-based health centers. Requires OHA to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly.

Section 8

Authorizes the Oregon Treasurer to issue lottery bonds in an amount that produces \$10 million in net proceeds to carry out this act. Establishes allowable uses for the net proceeds.

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Section 9

Requires OHA in its budget, to request funding for school-based health centers and school nurse models in Section 3, and for school based mental health services and substance use prevention program in Section 5.

Section 10

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Inflation adjustment and costs of school-based health center
- Impacts of school-based health centers on students.
- Rural access to school-based health centers

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 This amendment modifies the appropriations and grant funding amounts in section 1, section 2 and section 4. The amendment clarifies the definition of a school nurse model to mean enhancing school nursing services. The amendment removes the start date for school districts and education service districts to evaluate the need for school-based health services, and clarifies that districts need to evaluate the need for school-based health services including school-based health centers and school nurse models. The amendment removes section 8 allowing the State Treasurer to issue lottery bonds for section 2.

-3 The amendment is similar to the -1 amendment. This amendment modifies the appropriations and grant funding amounts in section 1, section 2 and section 4. The amendment clarifies the definition of a school nurse model to mean enhancing school nursing services. The amendment reduces the number of school districts or ESD to receive planning grant funding. The amendment removes the start date for school districts and education service districts to evaluate the need for school-based health services, and clarifies that districts need to evaluate the need for school-based health services including school-based health centers and school nurse models. The amendment removes section 8 allowing the State Treasurer to issue lottery bonds for section 2.

-4 The amendment deletes the awarding of grants to school districts or educational service districts for district planning and technical assistance, the development and awarding grants for school-based mental health services and substance use prevention, the study on reimbursements for mental health services and substance use prevention and the authorization of the Oregon Treasurer to issue lottery bonds for this act. The amendment modifies appropriations to from the General Fund to the Oregon Health Authority.

BACKGROUND:

School-based health centers (SBHCs) are medical clinics that provide physical, behavioral, and preventive health services on school grounds or inside a school. SBHCs are staffed by licensed health care professionals and are available to students, with some centers providing medical services to siblings, families, and community members.

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has established certification standards for SBHCs. The certification standards cover issues such as facility requirements, hours of operation, minimum staffing requirements, comprehensive care, data collection and reporting, and billing. According to OHA, there were 85 certified SBHCs located throughout Oregon as of July 2023.