

SB 778 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) to use a specified methodology to set reimbursement rates for air ambulance services.

DETAILED SUMMARY:

- Directs OHA to recalculate and revise reimbursement rates every two years for ambulances services, using the the national Ambulance Inflation Factor.
- Requires CCOs to reimburse air ambulance services at the rates established by OHA.
- Applies to contracts amended or renewed after effective date of this measure.
- 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.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Emergency air ambulance services are reimbursed for Oregon Health Plan members at 80 percent of the Medicare rate. In May of 2024, Oregon sought a State Plan Amendment to increase its air ambulance reimbursement rates ([link](#) to OHA letter to CMS).

Senate bill 778 would require OHA and CCOs to reimburse air ambulance services at rates set according to the national Ambulance Inflation Factor.

Analysis prepared by Aleya García Rivas.