

## HB 2015 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

---

**Prepared By:** Alexandra Kihn-Stang, LPRO Analyst

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

**Meeting Dates:** 3/25, 4/3

---

#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to study certain provisions of the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) chapters 414 and 430 for outdated language and to submit findings to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to health by September 15, 2026.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces the measure.

#### Detailed Summary

- Defines facilities to include residential treatment facilities (RTFs), residential treatment homes (RTHs), secure residential treatment facilities (STRFs), and secure residential treatment homes (SRTBs).
- Requires OHA to investigate specified flexibilities for administering residential treatment services, including:
  - Directs OHA to study potential alternatives or exceptions to current nurse staffing requirements in SRTBs to simultaneously address workforce challenges and maintaining provider and client safety;
  - Assess and consider alternative methodologies permitted by federal law for reimbursing facilities;
  - Determine whether residential behavioral health services may be provided to medical assistance recipients other than through the state Home and Community-Based Services waiver;
  - Determine the feasibility of supporting direct discharge of a resident to other types of housing when medically necessary and prudent and without requiring a third-party referral; and
  - Evaluate options for providing capacity payment to facilities when a resident is hospitalized or temporarily absent due to a law enforcement encounter.
  - Requires OHA to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026.
  - Directs OHA to adopt rules to allow new RTFs or RTHs to develop early transition plans for residents, establish a separate licensing process for youth RTHs, and accept conditional referrals before completing the licensure process, so long as the prospective resident is not placed in the facility until licensing is complete.
    - Directs OHA to submit a progress report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2025 and a final report by September 15, 2026.
  - Sunsets on January 2, 2027.
  - Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

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

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

#### BACKGROUND:

House Bill 4092 (2024) directed the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to conduct a study with the Oregon Council for Behavioral Health evaluating existing statutes, administrative rules, and contracts related to local behavioral health programs, identify contradictions and/or redundancies in the statutes, and make recommendations to support reducing the administrative burden on local behavioral health programs. A report on preliminary findings was submitted to the Legislative Assembly in December of 2024, which included the recommendation that terms

## HB 2015 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

related to funding-dependent treatment services should be streamlined and applied consistently throughout ORS chapters 414 and 430.

House Bill 2015 directs the Oregon Health Authority to study certain provisions of the Oregon Revises Statutes (ORS) chapters 414 and 430 for outdated language and to submit findings to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to health by September 15, 2026.

PRELIMINARY