

## HB 3146 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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

**Meeting Dates:** 3/11, 4/1

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish a pilot program to provide housing for individuals waiting for placement in a residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment program.

##### Detailed Summary

- Directs OHA to develop a pilot program that awards grants to provide emergency housing to individuals on waiting lists for residential SUD or withdrawal management programs. Specifies that grants will fund four to eight statewide programs. Specifies qualification criteria for grant recipient organizations and pilot program participants.
- Directs OHA to adopt rules to design and implement housing pilot program. Specifies that grant recipient programs may not require participant abstinence from controlled substances as a condition of housing and that programs should prioritize pregnant women.
- Directs OHA to submit a report on pilot program outcomes to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly on a biannual basis beginning September 15, 2026. Specifies what should be included in the report.
- Appropriates \$10,000,000 from the General Fund for the 2025-2027 biennium to administer the pilot program.
- Sunsets pilot program on January 2, 2033. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Waitlist emergency housing as an approach to support individuals seeking SUD treatment services, intended as a bridge to alternate settings and not intended to be a substitute for other behavioral health treatment.
- Whether pilot program development will incorporate elements from existing successful emergency housing models.
- Flexibility for individuals in emergency housing to seek alternate treatment programs as appropriate.
- Potential to support maternal and infant health by prioritizing these populations.

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Clarifies qualification criteria for grant eligibility. Specifies that grant funding may be used for capital and operating expenses.

*Fiscal impact: Fiscal impact issued*

*Revenue impact: No revenue impact*

#### BACKGROUND:

Residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and withdrawal management programs are key components of the continuum of care that support individuals seeking treatment for an active SUD. While residential SUD treatment programs exist across Oregon, program capacity is limited and potential clients often face lengthy waiting lists before they can access needed treatment. This creates a challenge for individuals seeking treatment but is particularly critical for those who are unhoused or have unstable housing as these populations are more likely to be lost to follow up between the time they enter a waiting list and when a space opens within the

program. One way to address this gap is by offering emergency housing programs which offer the potential to stabilize an individual seeking SUD treatment services while they await placement. Some emergency housing programs exist in Oregon, however these programs report challenges related to funding sustainability, as Medicaid funds cannot be used for individuals who are not actively enrolled in a treatment program.

House Bill 3146 directs the Oregon Health Authority to establish a pilot program to provide housing for individuals waiting for placement in a residential substance use disorder treatment program.