

HB 2020 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires that qualified nonprofit agencies for individuals with disabilities employ individuals with disabilities for not less than 50 percent of the work hours of direct labor required for manufacturing or providing products or services. It requires that a service provider that enters into a contract with a public agency to provide goods or services after the public agency terminated or declined to renew a previous contract with a different service provider must in the new contract provide health benefits that are as favorable as, or more favorable than, the health benefits available under the previous contract. It permits the successor service provider to provide health benefits through enrollment in a health plan that a labor organization maintains or to provide health benefits that are as favorable as, or more favorable than, the benefits available under the Oregon Health Plan.

Fiscal impact: (info)

Revenue impact: (info)

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Forward Program is state government procurement program managed by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). The program is intended to encourage and assist individuals with disabilities achieve maximum personal independence through productive and gainful employment. The program assures an expanded and constant market for Oregon Forward products and services, thereby strengthening an Oregon Forward employee's vocational goals and capacity for self-support.

An Oregon Forward Contractor (OFC) is a non-profit rehabilitation corporation that employs individuals with qualifying disabilities to provide products and services. The DAS Oregon Forward Program is responsible for qualifying a rehabilitation program as an OFC. OFCs must employ individuals with qualifying disabilities for at least 75% of the hours of direct labor across the entire company. An OFC's mission must include providing vocational services that enable employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

ORS 279.850 requires state agencies to procure products and services that are included on the Oregon Forward Program Procurement List available on the DAS website. Agencies that seek to procure products or services found on this list must procure through the Oregon Forward Program, provided the product or service meets the agency's quantity, quality, and delivery specifications. The Oregon Forward Program allows an agency to acquire directly from the OFC and does not require a competitive procurement.