SB 34 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 3/11, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Department to Human Services to study long term care and report to interim legislative committees by September 15, 2026. The measure sunsets on January 2, 2027.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment replaces the measure. The amendment requires the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) to conduct various studies related to regulation of long term care facilities and report to interim legislative committees.

Detailed Summary:

Study on Required Disclosure of Long Term Care Facility Ownership (Section 1)

- Requires ODHS to study state and federal laws that require a long term care facility to disclose information about owners and operators of the facility.
- Requires ODHS to update its website to publish specified information about the ownership and operation of long term care facilities.
- Requires ODHS to report on progress with updating the website and recommendations about additional authority or resources that are needed to interim legislative committees by December 31, 2025.

Study on Requiring Additional Information about Long Term Care Facility Ownership (Section 2)

- Requires ODHS to study whether additional information about the owners and operators of a long term care facility, beyond what is currently required under state and federal law, would benefit consumers.
- Specifies the scope of the study with regard to examining the usefulness of collecting specified information, consulting with stakeholders, and considering potential impacts.
- Requires ODHS to report findings to interim legislative committees by August 15, 2026.

Study on Public-Facing Online Portal (Section 3)

- Requires ODHS to study the feasibility of deploying an online portal that would collect information on licensure and other reports from long term care facilities and share that information with the public.
- Requires ODHS to report on findings and recommendations to interim legislative committees by December 31, 2025.

Study on the Regulatory Process for Public Notice of a Facility Ownership Change (Section 4)

- Requires ODHS to study needed regulatory changes to the process for notifying the public about changes in ownership of a long term care facility.
- Requires ODHS to develop recommendations about specified requirements for providing notice about a change in ownership and to consider potential impacts of any changes.
- Requires ODHS to report findings to interim legislative committees by August 15, 2026.

Sunset and Effective Dates (Sections 5 & 6)

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- Sunsets on January 2, 2027.
- Declares emergency, effective on passage.

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FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

BACKGROUND:

A long term care facility is defined in Oregon law as a permanent facility with inpatient beds that provides medical services (ORS 442.015). Long term care facilities include skilled nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Oregon law distinguishes these from residential care facilities, which assist residents with activities of daily living but generally do not provide on-site medical care (ORS 443.400).

Long term care facilities are licensed and regulated by the Oregon Department of Human Services' Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) division. APD operates a website for consumers to search for licensing information on regulated facilities. Consumers may also search for long-term care providers though the Aging and Disability Resource Connection website. Consumers may also contact the Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman, a federally mandated and independent state agency that responds to complaints from, and advocates for the interests of, residents of long term care facilities.

