

SB 1162 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 4/1, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires an approved certificate of need to establish, expand or relocate a hospice program into a new program area.

Detailed Summary:

Certificate of Need

- Directs the Oregon Health Authority to make rules for application requirements, to include
 - A description of the proposed project;
 - Evidence of the need for hospice services in the proposed service area;
 - Financial projections and sustainability plans, and
 - An analysis of the impact on existing hospice providers.
- Requires OHA to evaluate applications based on:
 - Community need for additional hospice services;
 - Accessibility of hospice services for underserved populations
 - Cost-effectiveness and financial viability; and
 - Quality standards and compliance with state federal laws.

Administrative Review

- Requires OHA to hold a public hearing within 60 days of receiving an application and to issue a proposed decision within 90 days after the public hearing.
- Provides for a contested case hearing to challenge the proposed decision.

Becomes operative January 1, 2026. Declares emergency, effective on package.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, no statement yet issued.

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Changes operative date from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2027.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, hospice is a comprehensive, holistic program of care and support for terminally ill patients and their families. Hospice care changes the focus to comfort care (palliative care) for pain relief and symptom management instead of care to cure the patient's illness. Both Medicare Part A and the Oregon Health Plan cover hospice services.

In Oregon, new hospitals and skilled nursing facilities must a certificate of need from the Oregon Health Authority prior to an offering or development. [ORS 442.315](#).

Senate Bill 1162 requires hospice facilities to obtain a certificate of need prior to establishing or expanding a facility in a service area.