

SB 881 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Prepared By: Brian Nieubuurt, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure transfers the responsibilities of the Oversight and Accountability Council (OAC) for providing grants to help fund behavioral health resource networks (BHRNs) to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC).

Detailed Summary

- Defines key terms, including "community court program," "community harm reduction," "detoxification facility," "drug-dependency related offense," "drug-dependent person," "individual harm reduction," "local planning committee," "police officer," "prevention," "recovery," "sobering center," "treatment," and "treatment facility"
- Requires the CJC, using funds from the Drug Treatment and Recovery Services Fund, to provide grants and funding to counties, federally recognized Indian tribes, and BHRNs to support the provision of prevention, treatment, recovery support and harm reduction.
- Requires CJC to adopt rules ensuring each region of the state receives funding in equitable proportion to the region's need. Caps spending on administrative costs or costs related to law enforcement at 15 percent of grant amount.
- Requires CJC to prioritize the funding of community harm reduction on a competitive grant basis.
- Requires CJC to get approval for grant and funding applications from local planning committees.
- Transfers the responsibilities of the OAC to the CJC.
- Requires the CJC to conduct an analysis of the most effective ways to address substance abuse within the state and provide a report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026. Requires report to be given to each county.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2020, Oregon voters passed Measure 110 ("Drug Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act"), approving two shifts in how the state deals with the use of illegal drugs. First, the measure reduces penalties for drug possession, making Oregon the first state to decriminalize the personal possession of illegal drugs. Secondly, the savings achieved from the cost of enforcing criminal drug possession penalties are combined with marijuana sales revenue to fund a new drug addiction treatment and recovery grant program. Senate Bill 755 (2021) modified some of the requirements of Measure 110. That measure also established Behavioral Health Resource Networks (BHRNs), which are a group of organizations that partner to provide substance use services free of charge to individuals seeking care. The measure requires a BHRN to be established in each county and tribal area in the state and established a process for grants to be awarded via the Oversight and Accountability Council. According to the Oregon Health Authority, there are currently 42 BHRNs and 151 BHRN partners.

SB 881 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

During the 2024 Session, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 4002 and House Bill 5204, reintroducing potential criminal penalties for drug possession while also investing over \$200 million improving access to behavioral health services.

Senate Bill 881 transfers the responsibilities of the Oversight and Accountability Council for providing grants to help fund behavioral health resource networks to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.