

SB 610 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

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Meeting Dates: 2/26, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to study the Ballot Measure 110 (2020) funding formula for Behavioral Health Resources Networks (BHRNs).

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Concerns with current BHRN funding process and formula.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

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- Establishes Advisory Board on Behavioral Health Resource Networks in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and specifies membership.
- Requires Advisory Board to adopt a funding formula for the equitable distribution of behavioral health resource network (BHRN) grants and funding by June 1, 2029.
- Establishes formula for grant distribution until Advisory Board formula is adopted.
- Requires Secretary of State to audit grants issued before adoption of Advisory Board formula to determine whether the grants and funding are being utilized according to statutory priorities. Requires audit to be submitted to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2028.
- Adds community health program director to membership of Oversight and Accountability Council.
- Requires Advisory Council to post comments received regarding funding formula adoption.
- Declares emergency, effective on passage.

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.

Senate Bill 610 requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to study the Ballot Measure 110 (2020) funding formula for Behavioral Health Resources Networks (BHRNs).