

HB 2456 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 4/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure changes the definitions of “medical assessment” and “victim” for purposes of the Sexual Assault Victims’ Emergency Medical Response (SAVE) Fund. It eliminates the distinction between complete and partial assessments. It also requires the Department of Justice to adopt rules establishing assessment timeframes, payment processes, and covered and non-covered services. It specifies that medical assessments related to strangulation are reimbursed through the Crime Victims’ Compensation Program.

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 51; Excused, 9

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Flexibility in timeframe for medical assessments
- Use of Oregon Health Plan instead of SAVE Fund
- Community care organization programs for sexual assault victims

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law establishes the Sexual Assault Victims’ Emergency Medical Response Fund (SAVE Fund) under ORS 147.395 and ORS 147.397 to pay for medical assessments for victims of sexual assault. Current law defines complete and partial assessments and sets fixed timeframes for reimbursement eligibility. House Bill 2456 A changes the definitions used for the SAVE Fund and eliminates the distinction between complete and partial assessments. The bill requires the Department of Justice to adopt rules establishing the timeframe for obtaining a medical assessment and identifying covered and non-covered services. It also specifies that medical assessments related to strangulation are reimbursed through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Account under ORS 147.035, rather than the SAVE Fund.