SB 610 -4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

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Meeting Dates: 2/26, 4/9, 4/30

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).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current BHRN grant funding process and formula and concerns
- Risks of destabilizing BHRNs in their infancy
- Upcoming improvements to behavioral health data system
- Impacts of decline in marijuana revenue

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

- -4 Replaces the measure.'
- Modifies the role Oversight and Accountability Council (OAC) to provide advice to the Oregon Health
 Authority (OHA) on providing grants to behavioral health resource networks (BHRNs), including funding
 priorities, funding distribution, and an educational campaign to increase awareness of services.
- Modifies membership of OAC.
- Modifies timing requirements for BHRN provision of screening services.
- Removes authority for OAC to use unspent funds in the Drug Treatment and Recovery Services Fund on specified services.
- Requires OHA to adopt rules establishing a process to appeal grant application decisions.
- Repeals requirement that OHA establish BHRN statewide telephone hotline.

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

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).