

HB 2506 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/19, 4/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission (ADPC) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to take specified actions to increase access to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment in Oregon.

Detailed Summary:

Statewide Policies and Practices

- Directs ADPC, in collaboration with OHA, to develop statewide policies and procedures to support appropriate screening for SUD, increased and consistent availability of medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), and transition to care in the community for individuals with SUD discharging from an acute care setting.
- Requires statewide policies and procedures to include standard of care for individuals with SUD to include standards for providing referrals for follow-up care, screening in emergency departments (EDs), providing access to MOUD, and treating youth under 19 years of age.
- Requires ADPC to offer training and technical assistance to each hospital system in the state. Specifies topics to be included.
- Requires ADPC to report to Legislative Assembly on the development of statewide policies and procedures by September 30, 2026. Requires report to identify regional SUD treatment needs, barriers to accessing MOUD, and recommendations for supporting access to MOUD.

Program and Funding Assessment

- Requires ADPC to assess current programs and funding that may support patient referral from EDs to low-barrier community SUD clinics and submit a report to the Legislative Assembly by September 30, 2026 on how to align program and funding.

Enhanced Funding Model for Medical Assistance SUD Referrals

- Requires OHA to develop an enhanced funding model to allow low-barrier community SUD clinics to accept referrals from emergency departments and providers and treat individuals with MOUD. Requires enhanced model to promote short- and long-term prescribing of MOUD by increasing medical assistance program reimbursement rates and creating other incentives.

SUD-Related Health Outcome and Quality Measures

- Requires Metrics and Scoring Subcommittee of Health Plan Quality Metrics Committee to include measure related to treatment following an opioid overdose, referrals for follow-up care for opioid use disorder, and the utilization of MOUD to health outcome and quality measures adopted for application to services provided by coordinated care organizations (CCOs).

ADPC Outreach and Consultation

- Requires ADPC to conduct outreach to increase knowledge of evidence-based SUD treatment practices and availability of training.
- Requires any state agency studying SUD prevention or treatment to provide ADPC with proposed study and study findings in a timely manner or as requested by ADPC.

Methadone Clinics

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- Repeals laws prohibiting operation of a methadone clinic within 1,000 feet of a school or child care facility.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- HB 4002 (2024) requirements and September 2024 Report.
- The importance of MOUD in treatment compliance.
- Current limited availability to MOUD in Oregon.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Clarifies standards to be developed with statewide policies and procedures. Clarifies requirements for the development of recommendations for an enhanced funding model for referrals out of emergency departments, including requiring OHA and ADPC to report to the Legislative Assembly by September 30, 2026.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

REVENUE: No revenue impact

BACKGROUND:

Medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) have been associated with reduced risk of overdose and overall mortality. There are currently three MOUD medications approved by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA): buprenorphine, methadone, and naltrexone. These medication help normalize the brain chemistry of opioid users, including blocking the euphoric effects and relieving physiological cravings.

The Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission (ADPC) is an independent state agency tasked with improved the effective and efficiency of state and local substance use disorder (SUD) prevention, treatment, and recovery services for Oregonians. House Bill 4002 (2024) charged ADPC with developing recommendations for increasing the state's capacity for opioid use disorder treatment, including access to MOUD.

House Bill 2506 directs the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission and Oregon Health Authority to take specified actions to increase access to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment in Oregon.