

HB 3631 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Prepared By: Brian Nieubuurt, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to partner with a statewide community-based organization (CBO) to establish a pilot program to provide substance use prevention education and specialized mental or behavioral health services to youth in 20 counties in the state, focusing on remote or underserved communities.

Detailed Summary:

- Requires CBO to work with qualified community partners to:
 - Implement evidence-based curriculum to increase positive behavior and reduce substance use and absenteeism among youth;
 - Implement staff training to reduce conflict between youth and adults and improve relationships; and
 - Connect youth with qualified providers of early intervention and prevention services in a community-based setting.
- Requires OHA to provide an interim report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026 and a final report by September 15, 2027.
- Appropriates \$8 million to OHA for pilot program.
- Sunsets pilot program on January 2, 2029.
- Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the 2022 Student Health Survey, Oregon's substance use disorder rates for youth age 12 - 17 (5.77 percent) and young adults age 18 - 25 (17.49 percent) are higher than the national rates for comparative age groups (4.08 percent and 14.59 percent respectively). The survey also found that drug overdoses have increased for youth ages 10 - 17 and young adults ages 18 - 24; with deaths in the latter group increasing from about 40 in 2017 to 75 in 2021.

House Bill 3631 requires the Oregon Health Authority to establish a pilot program to provide substance use prevention education and specialized mental or behavioral health services to youth in 20 counties in the state, focusing on remote or underserved communities.