

HB 2940 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 5/13, 5/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), subject to the availability of funds, to implement a program to provide real time notifications in hospital emergency departments that identify patients with hemoglobinopathies and provide information on how to contact a hematologist. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

Detailed Summary:

- Requires OHA to consult with specified stakeholders to develop the program.
 - Permits a member of the Legislative Assembly or a legislative staff member to participate as a stakeholder.
 - Requires OHA to submit a report including information gathered from stakeholders to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to health care by March 1, 2026.
 - Sunsets stakeholder consultation requirements January 2, 2027.
- Directs OHA to, subject to the availability of funds, implement the real time notification program by May 1, 2026.

House Vote: Ayes, 57; Nays, 0

Fiscal Impact: Has Minimal Fiscal Impact

Revenue Impact: No Revenue Impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Hemoglobin is a protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen to the body's organs and tissues. Low hemoglobin levels can lead to anemia, resulting in tiredness, weakness, and shortness of breath. Hemoglobinopathies are a group of inherited disorders in which there is abnormal production or structure of the hemoglobin molecule (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)), 2015). Sickle cell disease is a hemoglobinopathy caused by abnormal hemoglobin that damages and deforms red blood cells. The abnormal red blood cells break and obstruct blood vessels, leading to recurrent severe pain and multi-organ damage. Sickle cell disease is particularly common among people whose ancestors come from sub-Saharan Africa, regions in the Western Hemisphere (South America, the Caribbean, and Central America), Saudi Arabia, India, and Mediterranean countries such as Turkey, Greece, and Italy.

House Bill 2940 A requires the Oregon Health Authority, subject to the availability of funds, to implement a program to provide real time notifications in hospital emergency departments that identify patients with hemoglobinopathies and provide information on how to contact a hematologist.