

Legislative Fiscal Office 83<sup>rd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to addiction medicine services; prescribing an effective date.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:** Legislative Assembly, Task Force/Committee/Workgroup, Oregon Health Authority

# Summary of Fiscal Impact

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - see explanatory analysis.

## **Measure Description**

The measure requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to increase the reimbursement rates for addiction medicine services and general medicine billing codes by 30% when used by a board-certified addiction medicine physician in certain circumstances. This provision is repealed July 1, 2027.

The measure establishes the 17-member Task Force on Addiction Medicine Reimbursement Rates which is to determine if and how reimbursement rates should be modified and what type of support would be required for these changes. The measure directs the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission to staff the task force. Two of the members must be appointed by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, these positions will be non-voting. All other members will serve as volunteers and are not eligible for compensation or reimbursement. The task force is to submit a report with their findings on December 15, 2026.

The measure expands the responsibilities of the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission to review, annually, the rates for addiction medicine services for the medical assistance program. The commission must submit a report annually to the legislature by September 1 with their recommendations. OHA must review and revise reimbursement rates, based on this report, by July 1 of the year following the commission's published report. The measure becomes operative January 1, 2026.

## **Fiscal Analysis**

The fiscal impact of the measure is indeterminate. While costs are identified to staff the Task Force and support expanded responsibilities for the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission, the measure's requirement to increase reimbursement rates is unknown but anticipated to be significant. Unknown variables identified by OHA include the full extent of services that my be provided, including ancillary, related charges for facilities and level of care such as inpatient, outpatient, or observation.

The Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission is budgeted within the Oregon Health Authority. To staff the Task Force on Addiction Medicine Reimbursement Rates and manage the expanded responsibilities required in the measure, the commission will require three positions. The estimated cost for these positions, including personal services and position-related services and supplies costs is \$433,811 General Fund. New positions include one Program Analyst 2 position to serve as the Medical Coding Specialist, this position will review billing codes and modifiers for utilization and accuracy. Following the completion of the task force, this position will manage regulation of code updates and reimbursement rate changes. OHA will also need one limited duration

#### FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Operations and Policy Analyst 4 position to serve as the Substance Use Disorder rate policy specialist. This position will staff the committee, conduct research and policy analysis, and provide project management for the task force. Additionally, OHA will need one permanent Research Analyst 4 position to serve as the SUD Rate Data analyst, responsible for overseeing rate studies. This position will continue this work with the commission following the sunset of the task force. OHA will also contract with a third-party for actuarial services, this contract is anticipated to cost \$400,000 General Fund.

#### **Relevant Dates**

The measure takes effect on the 91st day after sine die and is operative on January 1, 2026.

The task force must submit its report to the legislature by December 15, 2026.

The task force is repealed on December 31, 2026.

The measure repeals the 30% increase to reimbursement rates on July 1, 2027.