

HB 3146 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Action Date: 04/01/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.
(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 6-3-0-0

Yeas: 6 - Javadi, McIntire, Munoz, Nelson, Nosse, Pham H

Nays: 3 - Diehl, Harbick, Isadore

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Alexandra Kihn-Stang, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/11, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish a pilot program to provide grants to fund low-barrier, emergency housing for unhoused individuals who are waiting for placement in a residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment or withdrawal management program.

Detailed Summary

- Directs OHA to develop a pilot program that awards grants to organizations for the purpose of providing emergency housing to unhoused individuals on waiting lists for residential SUD or withdrawal management programs. Specifies that grants will fund between four and eight programs across the state. Specifies grant program qualification criteria.
- Directs OHA to adopt rules to design and implement housing pilot program. Specifies that grant recipient programs may not require abstinence from the use of controlled substances as a condition of qualification to receive housing. Stipulates that programs should prioritize pregnant women when possible.
- Directs OHA to submit a report on outcomes of the pilot program to the Legislative Assembly on a biennial basis beginning no later than September 15, 2026. Specifies report contents.
- Appropriates \$10,000,000 from the General Fund for the 2025-2027 biennium for OHA to administer the pilot program.
- Sunsets pilot program on January 2, 2033. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Waitlist emergency housing as an approach to support individuals seeking SUD treatment services, intended as a bridge to alternate settings and not intended to be a substitute for other behavioral health treatment
- Whether pilot program development will incorporate elements from existing successful emergency housing models
- Flexibility for individuals in emergency housing to seek alternate treatment programs as appropriate
- Potential to support maternal and infant health by prioritizing these populations

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Makes organizations that contract with OHA or coordinated care organizations to provide specified care to pregnant women eligible for grants. Specifies that grant funding may be used for capital and operating expenses.

BACKGROUND:

Residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and withdrawal management programs support individuals seeking treatment for an SUD. While residential SUD treatment programs exist across Oregon, program capacity is limited, and potential clients may be placed on a waiting list before they can access treatment. Program capacity limitations may create a challenge for people seeking treatment, including those who are unhoused or live in

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unstable housing. Emergency housing programs may help stabilize individuals seeking SUD treatment services while they await placement within a program, as Medicaid funds cannot be used for individuals who are not actively enrolled in a treatment program.

House Bill 3146 A directs the Oregon Health Authority to establish a pilot program to provide grants to fund low-barrier, emergency housing for unhoused individuals who are waiting for placement in a residential substance use disorder treatment or withdrawal management program.