

## SB 443 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Education

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**Action Date:** 04/07/25

**Action:** Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

**Vote:** 3-1-1-0

**Yeas:** 3 - Frederick, Gelser Blouin, Sollman

**Nays:** 1 - Robinson

**Exc:** 1 - Weber

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/24, 3/31, 4/7

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates \$1.5 million from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. It allows the funds to be distributed through Oregon Health and Science University to the Oregon Residency Collaborative Alliance for Family Medicine (ORCA-FM) for the same purposes as [Senate Bill 490 \(2023\)](#).

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Growth in number of family medicine residencies in Oregon
- Impact of family medicine practitioners

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

The [Oregon Academy of Family Physicians](#) (OAFP) is a medical specialty society with 1,700 members in Oregon and is the state chapter of the national American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). Both OAFP and AAFP engage in advocacy for the specialty of family medicine.

The [Oregon Residency Collaborative Alliance for Family Medicine \(ORCA-FM\)](#), a program of OAFP, was funded with the passage of [Senate Bill 490 \(2023\)](#). The measure directed the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to distribute \$1.5 million to Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) to support the OAFP in promoting Oregon family medicine residency programs and developing training and programming for family medicine residents, directors, and faculty. It allowed OHSU's Area Health Education Center to withhold up to five percent of funding for administrative costs.

ORCA-FM is an alliance of Oregon's nine family medicine residency programs, which train 157 residents each year. According to OHSU's 2025-2027 budget request to the Legislative Fiscal Office, ORCA-FM's programming in the last biennium included

- a policy scholars program to train residents in advocacy,
- a virtual residency week to educate medical students on family medicine residencies in Oregon,
- promoting Oregon family medicine residencies at the AAFP national conference, and
- conference scholarships for residents and faculty.