

## SB 942 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Health Care

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**Action Date:** 04/08/25

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

**Vote:** 5-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 5 - Campos, Hayden, Linthicum, Patterson, Reynolds

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Daniel Dietz, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/6, 4/8

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

This measure mandates that health benefit plans cover children under a legal guardian's care beyond the age of 26 if the child has an ongoing disability.

#### DETAILED SUMMARY:

- Requires all individuals and group health benefit plans to include coverage for a child whose parent is the child's legal guardian for the duration of the guardianship.
- Requires health plans to cover disabled children over 26 if they have ongoing disability that prevents them from working and supporting themselves and the child has been covered by parent's insurance for at least two years.
- Specifies that plans must provide coverage for at least two years before the child ages out.
- Clarifies the definition of "disabled" to include the diagnosis of a rare disease. Defines rare diseases as a disease that affects fewer than 200,000 people in the United States.
- Clarifies that "self-sustaining employment" means a job that provides health insurance costing no more than 10 percent of the individual's gross income.
- Applies new coverage rules to health benefit plans issued, renewed, or extended after the law takes effect.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Coverage available to individuals over the age of 26.
- Administrative cost of ONE Eligibility System.

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Narrows requirement to cover children over 26 to those with disabilities.

#### BACKGROUND:

The federal Affordable Care Act included a requirement that health insurers cover the dependent of the insured up to age 26. Some insurance plans may allow for coverage of children beyond age 26. In these cases, an insured family can keep a dependent with disabilities on its health plan if the disability begins before age 26, the dependent has continuous health coverage without gaps, and the dependent child is incapable of self-sustaining employment. Typically, a plan requires documentation of the disability and may review eligibility.

Senate Bill 942 A requires individual and group health insurance plan issued in Oregon plans to cover children under a legal guardian's care beyond age 26 when the child has a disability.

*Analysis prepared by LPRO Graduate Intern ALEYSÁ GARCÍA RIVAS.*