

SB 610 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Kropf

Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Action Date: 02/26/25

Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.

House Vote

Yeas: 5 - Edwards, Isadore, Kropf, Mannix, Valderrama

Senate Vote

Yeas: 2 - Lieber, Prozanski

Nays: 1 - Girod

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Brian Nieuburt, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/26, 4/9, 5/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure modifies the administration of the Behavioral Health Resource Network (BHRN) grant program to make the Oversight and Accountability Council (OAC) an advisory body to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

Detailed Summary:

- Modifies the role OAC to provide advice to OHA on providing grants to BHRNs, including funding priorities, funding distribution, and an educational campaign to increase awareness of services
- Modifies membership of OAC
- Modifies timing requirements for BHRN provision of screening services
- Removes authority for OAC to use unspent funds in the Drug Treatment and Recovery Services Fund on specified services
- Requires OHA to adopt rules establishing a process to appeal grant application decisions
- Repeals requirement that OHA establish BHRN statewide telephone hotline

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current BHRN grant funding process and formula and concerns
- Risks of destabilizing BHRNs in their infancy
- Upcoming improvements to behavioral health data system
- Impacts of decline in marijuana revenue

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2020, Oregon voters passed Measure 110 ("Drug Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act"), approving two shifts in how the state deals with the use of illegal drugs. First, the measure reduces penalties for drug possession, making Oregon the first state to decriminalize the personal possession of illegal drugs. Secondly, the savings achieved from the cost of enforcing criminal drug possession penalties are combined with marijuana sales revenue to fund a new drug addiction treatment and recovery grant program. Senate Bill 755 (2021) modified some of the requirements of Measure 110. That measure also established Behavioral Health Resource Networks (BHRNs), which are groups of organizations that partner to provide substance use services free of charge to individuals seeking care. The measure requires a BHRN to be established in each county and tribal area in the state and establishes a process for grants to be awarded via the Oversight and Accountability Council. According to the Oregon Health Authority, there are currently 42 BHRNs and 151 BHRN partners.

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Senate Bill 610 A modifies the administration of the Behavioral Health Resource Network grant program to make the Oversight and Accountability Council an advisory body to the Oregon Health Authority.