

HB 4053 -1, -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/10, 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure establishes the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program Fund, directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to create programming for EMS workforce development and training, and makes changes to the EMS program and associated advisory boards. Takes effect the 91st day following sine die.

Detailed Summary:

EMS Program Fund

- Establishes the EMS Program Fund in the State Treasury separate from the General Fund. Specifies what the fund may be used for, along with the EMS Fund. Becomes operative on January 1, 2027.
- Directs, but does not require, OHA to create EMS workforce development, training, and innovation programming. Specifies that money in the EMS Program Fund is appropriated to OHA for this purpose.

EMS Program

- Makes changes to the EMS Program.
 - Clarifies language.
 - Remove regulations of state reimbursement systems.
 - Renames the Pediatric EMS Advisory Committee the EMS for Children Advisory Committee. Makes changes to Committee composition.
 - Changes the Long Term Care and Senior Care EMS Advisory Committee to a Subcommittee.
 - Stipulates that the Long Term and Senior Case EMS Advisory Subcommittee will inform recommendations from the EMS Advisory Committee to the EMS Advisory Board.
 - Specifies that the Behavioral health EMS Advisory Committee may delegate giving advice and recommendations to the EMS Advisory Board to another Committee or Subcommittee.
 - Removes time restrictions for when an EMS center must adopt a data system or registry. Allows the EMS Program to use an established OHA data system.
- Changes become operative January 1, 2027.

EMS Education

- Adds minimum education requirements for EMS licensure to OHA rulemaking requirements.
- Permits an enrolled EMS student to provide pre-hospital care to a patient as part of a clinical course so long as the student as a qualified supervisor.
- Becomes operative January 1, 2027.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for EMS Program fund to accept grants from the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) intended for the EMS sector.
- Potential uses of RHTP EMS grants.
- Memory care as an appropriate topic for discussion by the Long Term and Senior Care Emergency Medical Services Advisory Subcommittee.
- Providing clarity around EMS students and allowing out-of-state students to train in Oregon.
- Updating EMS Advisory Committee requirements to allow retired EMS providers to continue service.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1

- Makes changes to requirements to OHA workforce training and development programing. Directs OHA to establish programming with advice of the EMS Advisory Board and specifies audience.
- Expands scope of recommendations for the Long Term Care and Senior Case EMS Advisory Subcommittee.
- Makes changes to EMS licensure requirements. Restricts use of certain titles unless an individual is appropriately licensed.
- Adds to provision on EMS students providing prehospital care to include students from outside of Oregon provided that they are enrolled in an appropriate program.
- Makes changes to requirements to OHA workforce training and development programing. Directs OHA to establish programming with advice of the EMS Advisory Board and specifies audience.
- Expands scope of recommendations for the Long Term Care and Senior Case EMS Advisory Subcommittee.
- Makes changes to EMS licensure requirements. Restricts use of certain titles unless an individual is appropriately licensed. Specifies titles.
- Adds to provision on EMS students providing prehospital care to include students from outside of Oregon provided that they are enrolled in an appropriate program. Specifies that a student may use the title for which they are in training.

-2 *Fiscal impact: Minimal fiscal impact.*

Revenue impact: No revenue impact.

BACKGROUND:

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Modernization Act of 2024, House Bill [4081](#), established the EMS [Program](#) within the Oregon Health Authority. The EMS Program is responsible for developing and regulating systems to support the delivery of quality emergency care, ensuring that Oregon's EMS systems are fully prepared to respond efficiently and effectively. The ultimate goal of EMS modernization is to create regional emergency care systems capable of serving patients by directing them to appropriately resourced facilities to meet their acute needs. A component of EMS modernization is the implementation of statewide standards, regional plans, and locally specific protocols. EMS modernization activities will be implemented in phases over a several year period.

House Bill 3572 (2025) would have enacted the second phase of EMS modernization, including directing the EMS Program to develop and implement a 10-year strategic plan and creating the EMS Program Fund to provide funds to regional EMS advisory boards.

House Bill 4053 creates the EMS Program Fund, directs OHA to create programming for EMS workforce development and training, and makes changes to the EMS program and associated advisory boards.