

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Elections, Ethics and Rules, then to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Cowan, Krieger, Nelson, Schaufler, Boone

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Jim Keller, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/20, 5/1, 5/8, 5/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services for purchase of influenza or antiviral drugs. Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Amount of vaccines in the federal stockpile
- Amount of vaccines Oregon should have in stockpile
- Cost for storage
- Shelf life of vaccines
- Time to develop a new vaccine
- Impact on the general population if a vaccine is not available

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Appropriates to the Department of Human Services \$1,924,774 from the General Fund moneys to purchase equipment, provide personnel capacity sufficient to distribute the supplies, and training for a pandemic emergency.

BACKGROUND: Pandemic flu is virulent human flu that causes a global outbreak, or pandemic, of serious illness. Because there is little natural immunity, the disease can spread from person to person. Flu pandemics are known to have occurred periodically in the past hundred years. The 1918 "Spanish flu" was the 20th century's largest pandemic and killed at least 500,000 people in the United States and up to 40 million worldwide. There were smaller pandemics in 1957 and 1968, in which the death rates were higher than the number that occurs in a normal year. The usual influenza causes an estimated 36,000 deaths in the US each year.

Currently Oregon has not appropriated money for antiviral for pandemic stockpiling. House Bill 2814 as amended would appropriate \$1,924,774 from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services to purchase personal protective equipment for more than 100,000 public health professionals, state police, local police, sheriff's officers, fire rescue personnel, emergency medical technicians, National Guard Members, doctors, nurses, hospital staff, long term care staff and emergency electrical and emergency utility workers.