

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action: Without Recommendation as to Passage, With Amendments, Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 6 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Cowan, Gelser, Gilliam, Kotek, Maurer, Tomei

Nays: 0

Exc.: Olson

Prepared By: Andy Smith, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/16, 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Appropriates moneys to Department of Human Services to purchase website services to help provide information and services to individuals with behavioral and mental health needs. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of funding direct services
- Use of technology to reach more clients
- Approaches of other states
- Websites currently being used Oregon counties

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Sets specific dollar amount for general fund allocation. Removes name of particular provider.

BACKGROUND: Proprietary websites are currently used by a number of states to assist in the delivery of social services, including those related to behavioral and mental health. Common features of these sites include up-to-date and comprehensive service directories, links and tools for advocacy organizations, library and reference materials, links to national websites, local support group information and resources to help access local services. Advocates for such websites cite the value of providing a “no wrong door” tool and the ability to offer consumers access to a broad spectrum of information and services.