

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	8 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Bonamici, Bruun, Cannon, Flores, Kotek, Maurer, Richardson, Greenlick
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Gelser
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/28, 4/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Administrator of Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research to establish a community benefit reporting system for hospitals operating in Oregon, produce report of data received, and provide report to the Governor, members of the Legislative Assembly and the public. Specifies that the information reported is based on cost rather than charges and that it be consistent with established national standards for hospital reporting. Establishes that non-compliance with the mandatory reporting is punishable by a civil penalty not to exceed \$500 per day per violation. Authorizes Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research to adopt rules and schedule of penalties.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of providing consumers with accurate and informative information
- Importance of understanding community benefits
- Components of community benefits
- Proposed reporting system will be based on actual costs and can assist communities in assessing local benefit programs
- Review of current community benefits, charity programs and financial assistance guidelines
- Current charity care reporting
- Review of proposed amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Clarifies that the information reported is based on cost rather than charges and is to be consistent with established national standards for hospital reporting. Establishes that non-compliance with the mandatory reporting is punishable by a civil penalty not to exceed \$500 per day per violation. Authorizes Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research to adopt rules and schedule of penalties.

BACKGROUND: Community benefit is defined as “a program or activity that provides treatment or promotes health and healing in response to an identified community need”. Community benefit activities typically include charity care, community health improvement activities (health screening and disease management), research, financial and in-kind contributions to the community, as well as losses attributable to Medicare, Medicaid and accounting for charity care, and losses related to publicly-funded health care programs like Medicaid, the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and Medicare.

While many Oregon hospitals and health systems currently prepare a report to the community describing the services and benefits they provide, there are no statewide guidelines outlining what information is collected or how it is to be presented.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.