

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Avakian, Ferrioli, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Brown
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Marjorie Taylor, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	6/6, 6/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies provisions relating to coverage and membership of association health plans. Defines association health plans. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Pooling of members for health care coverage purposes
- Sunset clause on the measure
- Discussion with Insurance Division

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Defines association health plan.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Office of Private Health Partnerships (OPHP) administers programs to increase the number of Oregonians and businesses that provide health insurance. The agency, originally created as the Insurance Pool Governing Board in 1987, was renamed in 2006. Programs administered by the office include the Family Health Insurance Assistance Program (FHIAP) that helps uninsured income-eligible Oregonians pay the monthly premium for private health insurance; Small Employer Health Insurance (SEHI) Plans, the program provides low-cost health insurance plans for uninsured small businesses (two such plans are available to eligible businesses—a low-cost plan for adults and a comprehensive plan just for children); and the Agent Referral Program which connects business owners with health insurance agents (producers) in their community.

Associations currently offering bundled insurance plans for Oregon small businesses include Associated Oregon Industries (AOI), Associated General Contractors (AGC), and the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC).