

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Carter, Gordly, Kruse, Courtney, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	1/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Changes the name of the Diversion Program Supervisory Council to Health Professionals Program (HPP) Supervisory Council. Increases membership of council from five to seven members. Requires one member of the council to be a member of the public who represents health care consumers. Expands program to include licensees with mental disorders. Requires program personnel to report violation or suspected sexual violation by licensee to Board of Medical Examiners.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Possibility of physician suicide rates to fall by including mental disorders in the Health Professionals Program
- Oregon Medical Association (OMA), Oregon Psychiatric Association and the board will work collaboratively to address concerns with the council
- Including mental disorders in Health Professionals Program will help reduce stigma of mental disorders

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Changes one reference to sexual misconduct to sexual violation

BACKGROUND: Through a cooperative effort of the Oregon Medical Association (OMA) and the Board of Medical Examiners, the Health Professionals Program (HPP) was established in 1989 by action of the Oregon Legislature (Senate Bill 1032). Its purpose is to provide a therapeutic avenue for licensees to access treatment confidentially and with protection from professional investigation and/or disciplinary action based on the diagnosis of chemical abuse or dependency.

Eighty-four percent of health professional diversion programs allow licensees with mental disorders to enter the program, including neighboring states California and Idaho.

Of the 93 licensees in Oregon currently in the HPP, 60% have a dual diagnosis—a chemical abuse problem and a mental disorder.