

**REVENUE:** May have revenue impact, statement not yet issued

**FISCAL:** May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
<b>Vote:</b>	4 - 0 - 1
<b>Yeas:</b>	Carter, Gordly, Kruse, Monnes Anderson
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Courtney
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/9, 4/18, 4/23

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Creates a 24-member Task Force on Mental Health and Addiction Services for Underserved Populations. Declares emergency; takes effect upon passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Prevalence of mental health and addiction issues in racial and ethnic populations, seniors and people with disabilities
- Need for own body of research focused on underserved populations; importance of incorporating results into overall mental health and addictions services
- Lack of quality preventative mental health services in Oregon

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Changes the term “ethnic minorities” to “racial and ethnic populations.” Deletes provision allowing members of the task force to be reimbursed for expenses.

**BACKGROUND:** Proponents assert that there are few services within the public or private mental health systems that respond to the mental health needs of the senior or disability populations. Currently, emphasis is placed on a younger and more mobile clientele, and more acute forms of illness. Statistics show fewer than five percent of the total clientele served by the Community Mental Health Programs are age 65 and over, and less than one percent of the clientele served by alcohol and drug providers are age 65 and above; and there is little, if any, data on the mental health and addiction problems of people with physical disabilities.

SB 791A creates a 24-member task force that is directed to develop a plan for a comprehensive, integrated system of mental health and addiction services for seniors, persons with disabilities and persons in underserved racial or ethnic communities.