

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Beyer, Kruse, Prozanski, Walker, Burdick
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Bill Taylor, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	4/9, 4/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires the Department of Human Services to provide payment for substance abuse treatment for a person who: (a) Is the parent or legal guardian of a child who has been removed from the home and accepted for placement and care by the department as a result of a judicial determination that continued presence in the home is not in the child's best interest; (b) Has a current case plan for reunification that requires the person to receive substance abuse treatment; or (c) Is not otherwise eligible for health insurance or a medical assistance that will provide for substance abuse treatment. Prohibits payment for substance abuse if the person fails to comply with the requirements of the reunification case plan. Creates the Substance Abuse Treatment Fund in the State Treasury separate and distinct from the General Fund.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Costs
- Numbers of children in foster care because their parents are substance abusers

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: The amendments replace the bill.

BACKGROUND: Well over 50 percent of the children in foster care in Oregon are there because their parents have substance abuse problems that led to a child's abuse and neglect. The loss of custody of a child often motivates many of these parents to terminate their addictions. However, they need help with treatment programs and medical assistance. Studies show that children do best if they can be safely returned to their parents.