

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action: Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Carter, Gordly, Kruse, Courtney, Monnes Anderson

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/11, 4/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs the Department of Human Services to create a pilot project to train mental health professionals in serving mental health needs of older adults. Requires department to adopt rules establishing criteria for participation in program and measuring outcomes. Appropriates money from General Fund. Sunsets June 30, 2012.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- There is a demand for additional training
- Washington State's training program

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon has the fourth oldest population in the nation. At least one in five Oregonians over the age of 65 suffers from a mental health concern. Suicide rates among older adults are higher than any other age group. Mental health concerns in older adult are considered to be under-recognized and under-treated by medical personnel and mental health providers.