

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	3 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	Kruse, Verger, Morrisette
Nays:	0
Exc.:	George G., Monnes Anderson
Prepared By:	Ilana Weinbaum, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish a statewide registry to: 1) obtain information on birth abnormalities and poor pregnancy outcomes; 2) develop strategies for reducing incidences of birth defects; 3) provide parents and guardians with prevention information; and, 4) refer parents and guardians to appropriate services. Requires DHS to adopt rules for implementation, privacy and forms that hospitals, birthing centers and diagnostic centers must use. Allows DHS to require hospitals to provide records to the registry of all patients six years or younger diagnosed with birth abnormalities and patients discharged with poor pregnancy outcomes. Requires DHS to analyze information regarding cause, prevention and delivery of services in regard to birth defects and poor pregnancy outcomes. Allows DHS to establish an advisory committee.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Number of people effected by birth abnormalities
- Benefits of registry
- Fiscal impact not included in DHS budget

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Substitutes “fetal wasting” with “stillbirth” in the definition of “poor pregnancy outcomes.” Allows DHS to require hospitals to provide records to the registry of all patients who are six years of age or younger and diagnosed with birth abnormality and all patients discharged with a poor pregnancy outcome diagnosis.

BACKGROUND: Birth defects are the leading cause of infant mortality in the United States and account for more than 20 percent of all infant deaths. About 1,400 babies born each year in Oregon are affected by a birth defect. Oregon is one of four states in the country that does not have a mandatory system for reporting or monitoring children who are born with birth defects. Beyond the direct emotional and health impacts on affected children and their families, the costs of long term disability and medical care create a significant financial burden on the health care system. Estimates place the annual costs of birth defects in the United States at approximately \$8 billion. The lifetime costs estimated for each affected child range from \$140,000 to \$700,000 depending on the type of birth defects.