

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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<b>Action:</b>	Be Adopted
<b>Vote:</b>	8 - 0 - 1
<b>Yeas:</b>	Bonamici, Cannon, Flores, Gelser, Kotek, Maurer, Richardson, Greenlick
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Bruun
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	5/7

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Recognizes importance of health care workforce in Oregon. Acknowledges leadership role of public and private programs in supporting health care workforce education and enhancing health care workforce in Oregon. Encourages access to entry-level health care jobs, which can lead to health care careers, by public program participants.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Ongoing efforts developing public/private partnerships
- Importance of showing Oregon's commitment to improving the health care workforce shortage
- Current legislative efforts to accomplish health care reform

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The Oregon Employment Department projects a need for 59,000 additional health care workers between 2004 and 2014. More than half of these openings are due to growth; the remainder is to replace current workers. The industry believes these numbers may be understated due to increasing use of services that will occur with an aging population. Oregon has the fourth oldest population in the country.