

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Boone, Cowan, Dembrow, Freeman, Huffman, Maurer, Olson, VanOrman, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Keely West, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	1/23, 4/1, 4/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs the Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish an Aging and Disability Resource Center to provide comprehensive information, education and planning assistance to seniors, people with disabilities, volunteer caregivers and those approaching the need for late life care at risk of becoming impoverished and relying on public assistance. Establishes program guidelines for a centralized information and referral service, local assistance centers and direct services for the purpose of extending personal resources through counseling and education. Directs DHS to report progress to interim committees of the Legislative Assembly through 2012. Appropriates \$30 million to the Oregon Project Independence (OPI) fund, including \$10.5 million to expand direct services provided by Oregon Project Independence. Declares an emergency; takes effect on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Goals and achievements of OPI
- Growth of the aging population
- Need for centralized, accessible information
- Need for long term planning
- Reduction in costs of long term care by providing information, planning and services that allow individuals to remain in their homes for longer periods of time
- Minimizing the need for institutionalization, Medicaid services

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Changes category of individuals for service from “approaching retirement” classification to “approaching the need for late life care.”

BACKGROUND: Oregon is seeing a rapid rise in its aging and disabled population. According to the Department of Human Services (DHS), in June of 2008 approximately 11,000 individuals lived in community based care facilities and 11,000 relied on in-home care. With fewer community care facilities accepting Medicaid due to low reimbursement rates, Medicaid clients who can't access community based programs will have to enter more expensive long term care facilities driving up Medicaid costs.

The 2008 Legislative Special Session enacted SB 1061, which directs DHS to develop a comprehensive plan for Oregon's long term care system. As a result of SB 1061 a stakeholder work group created a comprehensive plan to protect seniors and the disabled. The work group's report recommends:

- restoration and expansion of Medicaid capacity;
- assistance for seniors and people with disabilities before they spend down and require Medicaid;
- the development of a quality workforce related to care of these groups;
- the addition of mental health and addiction services to services available for seniors and the disabled; and
- development of livable communities for this sector of the population.

HB 2391-A is intended to be the first step in stabilizing community based long term care and is designed to meet the work groups' recommendation of providing assistance prior to the need for Medicaid.

4/9/2009 4:15:00 PM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.