

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass with Amendments to the A-Eng. Measure (Printed B-Eng.)

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, Boquist, Dingfelder, Whitsett, Prozanski

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Anna Braun, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 5/26, 5/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires state health plans, health insurers, health care providers that transmit any protected health information to include in annual reports descriptions of procedures to safeguard individually identifiable health information held in electronic and hard copy forms. Requires such entities to identify any deficiencies in procedures, as well as any known breaches of security, and all steps being taken to address deficiencies in safeguard procedures. Sunsets in four years. Exempts entities that follow federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) requirements.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Adds a four year sunset. Exempts entities that follow federal HIPAA requirements.

BACKGROUND: The last few years have seen numerous cases of patient medical files being lost or stolen from medical facilities or insurance companies. HIPAA mandated the establishment of standards for the privacy of individually identifiable health information. HB 2604B requires entities that do not follow HIPAA requirements to have similar protective measures.