

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Kotek
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Bates

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 21 – 0 – 1

House

Yeas: D. Edwards, Galizio, Garrard, Gilman, Jenson, Komp, Kotek, Nathanson, Richardson, Shields, G. Smith

Nays:

Exc: Buckley

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Carter, Girod, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Verger, Walker, Whitsett, Winters

Nays:

Exc:

Prepared By: Kim To, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 9, 2009

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires the Department of Human Services to develop procedures for assessment by a qualified mental health professional prior to issuance of a new prescription for more than one psychotropic medication or any antipsychotic medication for children placed in foster care by the Department. The bill also requires an annual review of medications by a licensed medical professional, or qualified mental health professional with authority to prescribe drugs, other than the prescriber, if the child has more than two prescriptions for psychotropic medications or if the child is under the age of six years. The bill requires the Department to notify and inform the child's guardian about the medication, as well as why and how it is being used. The bill also prohibits prescribing psychotropic medication unless used for medically accepted indication that is age appropriate.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Potential impact on capitation rate
- Potential savings in pharmaceutical costs

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In the autumn of 2007, the *Oregonian* reported about the fragmented medical and behavioral health care systems encountered by foster children and their caregivers. Department of Human Services Director Bruce Goldberg formed a workgroup to identify root causes and potential solutions and reported to the Legislative Assembly in February 2008.