

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed A-Engrossed

Vote: 22 – 0 – 0

House

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

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

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

Nays:

Exc:

Prepared By: John Britton, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 26, 2009

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs the Department of Human Services, the Department of Consumer and Business Services, the Department of Administrative Services, and the Office of Private Health Partnerships to continue paying the costs of programs that are transferred to the Oregon Health Authority when HB 2009 is signed into law.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Amendment to the bill

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the bill.

BACKGROUND: HB 2009 establishes the Oregon Health Authority—an administrative agency that will collectively manage various programs that are housed in various state agencies. These programs include the Department of Human Services, Health Services (addictions and mental health, public health, and the Oregon Health Plan), the Department of Consumer and Business Services, Oregon Medical Insurance Pool, the Public Employee Benefits Board and Oregon Educators Benefit Board, and the Office of Private Health Partnerships. These functions are transferred to the Oregon Health Authority immediately upon passage of HB 2009. As a practical matter, however, the Oregon Health Authority cannot begin functioning until it has a director, a budget, and support staff to manage these programs. SB 936 clarifies that the existing agencies which currently administer these programs shall continue to pay costs for the 2009-11 biennium for functions that have been transferred to the Authority. When the Oregon Health Authority is fully prepared to manage these programs, the Legislature can provide a budget and the Authority, can, itself, begin to pay program costs.