

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Bates, Kruse, Morrisette, Morse, Monnes Anderson
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Rick Berkobien, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 2/16, 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Prohibits insurers from treating injuries from sexual violence as preexisting condition for coverage, underwriting or rating purposes. Defines sexual violence. Declares emergency; effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Instances in which women do not report sexual assault
- Barriers to services for victims of domestic and sexual violence
- Documentation of rape statistics
- Insurance companies accepting or denying payments for children's services
- Integrated health care models
- Number of children assessment programs in Oregon
- Services for which children assessment programs bill insurers

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: According to the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force, approximately one in six Oregon women will experience sexual assault in her lifetime. Although sexual assault is a medical emergency, a minority of victims will seek immediate medical care. About 16–18 percent of rapes are reported to law enforcement. The Task Force reports that recent studies have shown that 37 percent of health care costs may be the result of sexual assault, which includes mental health care, disease processes that are the result of drugs, nicotine and alcohol addiction, heart disease and hypertension.