## 76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 2856 A **CARRIER: Rep. Nathanson**

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

**House Committee on Human Services** 

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 8 - 0 - 0

> Frederick, Greenlick, Harker, Parrish, Thompson, Weidner, Gilliam, Tomei Yeas:

Navs: Exc.: 0

**Prepared By:** Jennifer Kellar, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 3/2, 3/7, 3/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to coordinate with other state and local entities efforts to reduce administrative and resource burdens on providers. Establishes uniform audit process, reporting forms and sharing of information to include information required by DHS and other state or local entities. Requires DHS to evaluate the success of the updated processes and forms. Directs DHS to appoint a work group to continuously review state reporting requirements that duplicate or exceed federal requirements or are unnecessary. Permits DHS to adopt work group recommendations and modify administrative rules. Allows for abbreviated and less frequent audits for programs after several consecutive successful audits. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Duplication, requirements and frequency of audits
- Numerous and uncoordinated information reporting requirements
- Need for audit processes and regulations to be reduced and simplified across state agencies
- Cost savings associated with elimination of unnecessary audits
- Unanimous recommendation from Government Efficiency Task Force
- Impact on providers
- Suggestions for streamlining and cost savings
- Need for uniform reporting forms for human service providers
- Administrative burden on county and local governmental partners
- Concern relating to evenly distributing unanticipated resources
- Fiscal implications of original measure
- Possible amendment

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Deletes pilot program. Requires DHS to coordinate with other state and local entities efforts to reduce administrative and resource burdens on providers. Establishes uniform processes, reporting forms and sharing of information. Requires DHS to evaluate the success of the processes and forms implemented. Directs DHS to appoint a work group to continuously review state reporting requirements that duplicate or exceed federal requirements or are unnecessary. Permits DHS to adopt work group recommendations and modify administrative rules.

**BACKGROUND:** State funded human service programs are subject to multiple, often redundant, audits by various state authorities. The objective of House Bill 2856A is to reduce the number and redundancy of unnecessary audits required by human service program providers; to establish a uniform audit program for human service program providers; and to provide the ability for abbreviated, less frequent audits of programs with a proven track record of meeting audit requirements.