

REVENUE: No Revenue Impact

FISCAL: No Fiscal Impact

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 7-0-1

Yeas: Bailey, Bentz, Brewer, Read, Wand, Barnhart, Berger

Nays: 0

Exc.: Gelser

Prepared By: Dae Baek, Economist

Meeting Dates: 6/1

WHAT THE BILL DOES: Removes ambulance services from the list of fee schedules used to calculate provider charges for personal injury protection benefits. Declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact of the new workers' compensation fee schedule on ambulance service charges
- Rate setting authority of ambulance service charges
- Need for a change of effective date

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS: None

BACKGROUND: The new Oregon workers' compensation fee schedule provides an 80 percent reimbursement rate for ambulance service charges. ORS 724.525 ties reimbursement rates for personal injury protection (PIP) benefits to the workers' compensation fee schedule.

This bill decouples ambulance service billings for PIP benefits from the workers' compensation fee schedule, which means that ambulance service charges for PIP will be paid as billed.