

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bates, Kruse, Morse, Shields, Monnes Anderson

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Brian Nieubuurt, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/2, 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to release information from the ALERT Immunization Information System (ALERT) for purposes of outreach to clients who have missed public health interventions and for purposes of public health assessments and evaluations related to immunizations and vaccine-preventable diseases. Adds OHA, local health departments and legal custodians of children under 18 years of age to list of authorized users. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Additional public health purposes for which ALERT information would be shared
- Potential state agency access to ALERT system and circumstances under which access would be permissible
- Protection of information in ALERT system

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes Department of Human Services and its agents from definition of “authorized user.” Adds legal custodians of children under 18 years of age to the definition of “authorized user.”

BACKGROUND: The ALERT system is a statewide, population-based registry that tracks immunizations provided to individuals throughout the state of Oregon. The registry was one of the earliest systems in the country to have achieved the 2010 National Health Objective of greater than 95 percent of children under six years of age participating in a statewide immunization registry.

Currently, the ALERT statutes only allow contact information to be shared for the purposes of: (1) improving an individual’s immunization status; or (2) informing an individual or their parent or guardian that the individual is late in receiving recommended immunizations. Senate Bill 107-A allows ALERT addresses to be shared for limited additional public health purposes, including informing patients of missed lead and hearing screening opportunities, outreach to patients who might be eligible for additional public health interventions, and conducting public health assessments and evaluations focused on immunizations and vaccine-preventable disease. OHA indicates that all data sharing would utilize the same secure, confidential protocols currently in place within ALERT.

4/14/2011 9:00:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.