

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Greenlick
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Monnes Anderson

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure as Amended and as Printed B-Engrossed

Vote: 18 – 7 – 0

House

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Freeman, Garrard, Komp, Kotek, McLane, Nathanson, Nolan, Richardson, Thatcher

Nays: G. Smith, Whisnant

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Courtney, Devlin, Edwards, Monroe, Verger

Nays: Girod, Nelson, Thomsen, Whitsett, Winters

Exc:

Prepared By: Kim To, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 10, 2011

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Senate Bill 738 permits the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to approve pilot projects to encourage the development of innovative practices in oral health care delivery systems with a focus on providing care to populations that evidence-based studies have shown have the highest disease rates and the least access to dental care. The bill requires the Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) to issue expanded practice permits in place of limited access permits. The board is directed to [1] compile data on expanded practice dental hygienists; and [2] report to an interim legislative committee on the reimbursement of services provided by expanded practice dental hygienists by October 1st of each even numbered year. The bill requires insurance policy covering dental health that provides coverage for services performed by dentists to cover services when performed by expanded practice dental hygienist under certain circumstances. The Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) is required to adopt rules requiring health insurers to report on the reimbursement services provided by expanded practice dental hygienists. DCBS is required to provide the information collected to OBD.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The – A8 fiscal does not change the original fiscal determination
- If OHA secures other fund resources for the pilot project, the authority may return to the 2012 legislative session or an Emergency Board for an expenditure limitation
- It is anticipated that OBD has sufficient projected 2011-13 ending balance to cover the \$7,000 reporting and change in licensing costs
- The bill is anticipated to have a minimal impact on DCBS

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Moves the responsibility for adopting rules requiring health insurers to report on the reimbursement services provided by expanded practice dental hygienists from the Board of Dentistry to the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS). DCBS is required to provide the information collected to the Board of Dentistry.

BACKGROUND: Oral health is vital for sustaining overall health, to getting good nutrition, and communicating with others. Oral disease often brings disabling pain and can even worsen heart and respiratory conditions and autoimmune diseases. A 2006 study by the Oregon Department of Human Services, Public Health Division, found that 61 percent of Oregon's counties endure some type of shortage of dental professionals. A 2008 study by the Government Accountability Office also highlighted the difficulties of accessing dental care for low income children.