

REVENUE: No revenue impact  
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
<b>Vote:</b>	8 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Conger, Doherty, Hoyle, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Parrish, Greenlick, Thompson
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/6, 2/8

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to adopt standards and procedures to certify specified mental health providers to qualify for insurance reimbursement. Specifies that OHA may adopt by rule an application fee, certification fee or both to be imposed on any provider organization that applies for certification. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Unintended consequence when the Mental Health Parity Act was enacted in 2005
- Department of Justice opinion
- Proposed amendment
- 2011 legislation
- Proposed interim project
- Need to balance quality and access

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Specifies that OHA may adopt by rule an application fee or certification fee, or both, to be imposed on any provider organization that applies for certification.

**BACKGROUND:** In 2005, the Mental Health Parity Act repealed Addictions and Mental Health (AMH) authority to establish standards and approve non-inpatient mental health providers for the purpose of insurance reimbursement. Non-inpatient mental health providers are mental health agencies that do not provide public mental health services through a contract with the county or state. With the removal of the authorizing statute, Department of Human Services does not have the authority to approve these non-inpatient programs.

House Bill 4127A re-instates the authority to AMH to certify non-inpatient mental health providers for the purpose of insurance reimbursement.