

GRANT REQUEST PONY

**Oregon Health Authority
Improve Minority Health**

(Reported out of Subcommittee on 5/28/13)

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Committee on Ways and Means approve the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of up to \$150,000 per year for two years, to improve minority health.

OHA's Office of Equity and Inclusion will support the agency's Transformation Center to address health disparities affecting minorities. The agency will focus on the integration and adoption of National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care (CLAS) within Coordinated Care Organizations. The first year will include development of training modules for CLAS standards, and delivery of training for a cohort of participants from CCOs and community organizations. Second year funding will provide grants to participating organizations to adopt and implement the CLAS standards within their organizations.

The agency will not need new staff to manage the work of this grant. The grant application was due on May 28, 2013. If approved, funding would begin on August 1, 2013 and end July 31, 2015. No state matching funds are required for the grant.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.

Federal Grant Application Request

Oregon Health Authority

Improve Minority Health

Analyst: Linda Ames

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of up to \$150,000 per year for two years, to improve minority health.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Analysis: The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is requesting approval from the Joint Committee on Ways and Means to apply for the State Partnership Grant Program to Improve Minority Health from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Grant funding is expected to be up to \$150,000 per year for two years. No state matching funds are required for the grant, nor is there a requirement for maintenance of effort.

This grant is intended to address significant health disparities affecting minorities. OHA's Office of Equity and Inclusion will support the agency's Transformation Center to strengthen Oregon's public health and health care systems to eliminate inequities. Specifically, the agency will focus on the integration and adoption of National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care (CLAS) within Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs). The first year will include development of training modules for CLAS standards, and delivery of training for a cohort of participants from CCOs and community organizations. The curriculum will focus on increasing knowledge and awareness of issues such as cultural backgrounds of populations served, effective communication across cultures, culturally specific approaches to health care, data collection sensitivity, and language access and health literacy. Second year funding will provide grants to participating organizations to adopt and implement the CLAS standards within their organizations.

The agency will not need new staff to manage the work of this grant. The grant application is due on May 28, 2013. If approved, funding would begin on August 1, 2013 and end July 31, 2015. If necessary, additional expenditure limitation could be added later in the biennium.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.

Motion: I move that the Joint Committee on Ways and Means approve the Oregon Health Authority's submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to improve minority health.