

**Senate Bill 21
Relating to long term care**

Senate Bill 21 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to convene a committee to develop a plan to improve and strengthen the long term care system. The plan must cover several elements, including strategies supporting independence, care setting choice, and culturally responsive services. Along with agency staff, committee membership will include community partners, consumers, seniors and people with disabilities, legislators, and federal partners. DHS will report to the legislature on the plan in 2014 and 2015.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends Senate Bill 21 be reported out do pass.

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Gallegos
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Steiner Hayward

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote:

House

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

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Meeting Date: June 19, 2013

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of Human Services develop long term care system plan. Specifies requirements for development and implementation of plan. Creates planning committee, specifies participants, requires status report to 2014 Legislative Assembly and final report February 1, 2015. Sunsets January 2, 2016. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Understand need and desire to continue to look for system improvements
- Oregon already has a very good system, so committee should tread lightly (if it isn't broke, don't fix it)

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon is recognized as a national leader for providing community-based long term care services for older adults and people with physical disabilities. With the expansion of the aging population and the demand for assistance increasing, Oregon's system cannot meet the demand with the current level of resources. The Department of Human Services (DHS) is proposing to convene a planning committee to develop an improved and secure long term services and supports system. The committee will include DHS, community partners, providers, consumers, seniors, people with disabilities, and legislators.