

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Steiner Hayward
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/5, 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes relative caregiver with whom minor child lives to consent to medical treatment and educational services for minor child if consent of legal parent or guardian cannot be obtained after reasonable efforts. Specifies required information in relative caregiver affidavit. Provides one-year expiration date on affidavit. Relieves health care provider and school of criminal and civil liability for medical treatment or educational services provided in good faith. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Role of relatives being caregivers
- Importance of relative caregivers having medical and educational authority
- Obtaining approval from parent or legal guardian

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: According to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) March 2012 report, nearly 3 million American children are cared for by relatives other than their parents. Child welfare agencies in many states rely on extended families, primarily grandparents, to provide homes for children who cannot safely remain with their parents. According to NCSL, relatives care for 27 percent of children in foster care, about 107,000 according to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System. Oregon is only one of six states that do not have a medical or education consent law.

Senate Bill 601 authorizes medical treatment and educational services to relative caregivers, when consent from parent or legal guardian cannot be obtained after reasonable efforts have been attempted.

3/27/2013 11:00:00 AM

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