

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

---

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 7 - 1 - 1

Yeas: Clem, Harker, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Thompson, Greenlick

Nays: Conger

Exc.: Weidner

Prepared By: Tyler Larson, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/27

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Removes exemptions for treatment resulting from conviction of driving under the influence from health insurance coverage requirements for chemical dependency and mental or nervous conditions. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Public health and safety risks of reducing access to treatment
- Impact of denied coverage on individuals in crisis, families, employers, treatment centers and the public
- Legislative intent of current exemption

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Currently, Oregon statute exempts an insurer providing coverage for hospital or medical expenses arising from treatment for chemical dependency or mental or nervous condition from covering screening interviews and treatment programs required by court order as part of a conviction for driving while under the influence (DUI) of intoxicants. There are no other exemptions for criminal acts leading to court-ordered treatment.

Proponents assert that an individuals ordered to undergo screening and treatment after a DUI conviction are generally in crisis, and if denied coverage for these treatments are less likely to complete the court-ordered program, less likely to receive help and more likely to be a future public safety risk.

House Bill 2385 deletes the existing exemption with the intent of increasing access to addiction treatment programs for those in need.

3/28/2013 2:14:00 PM

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