

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Gallegos, Gelser, Gilliam, Gomberg, Keny-Guyer, Olson, Whisnant, Whitsett, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Regina Wilson, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/8, 4/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of Human Services (DHS) to adopt rules to ensure that investigations of abuse of vulnerable persons are conducted in uniform, objective and thorough manner throughout state. Directs DHS to prepare annual report to Legislative Assembly regarding reports and complaints of abuse against vulnerable persons. Expands crime of assault in third degree to include intentional physical injury to vulnerable person. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Clarity and alignment of abuse definitions
- Improve investigations and reporting
- Long term care worker registry
- Provisions for addressing medical records and custodian of records

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes sunset providing access to medical and financial health records; includes language requiring certified copy of financial documents per subpoena. Clarifies report requirements that initiate prosecution under extended statute of limitation. Aligns mandatory reporter statute with child abuse reporting requirements and adds mandatory reporters. Extends Elder Abuse Work Group to 2015; expands work group membership. Clarifies district attorney responsibilities regarding multidisciplinary teams.

BACKGROUND: Federal legislation provides the groundwork for states when addressing definitions and investigations relating to the abuse and neglect of vulnerable persons. The Department of Human Services in Oregon provides services to more than 1 million Oregonians each year. House Bill 2205A requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to adopt rules ensuring investigations of abuse of vulnerable persons are conducted in uniform, objective and thorough manner throughout state. It directs DHS to prepare an annual report to the Legislative Assembly regarding reports and complaints of abuse against vulnerable persons. It expands the crime of assault in third degree to include intentional physical injury to vulnerable persons.