

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates Work Group on Corrections Health Care Costs. Specifies membership and duties. Requires work group make recommendations for legislation to reduce Department of Corrections health care costs. Sunsets upon convening of 2014 regular Legislative Session. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) Health Services is responsible for providing medical care to over 14,000 prisoners across the state, incarcerated with the fourteen institutions of the DOC State Prison system. State and federal laws have established that inmates are entitled to health care during incarceration. Health care services available to inmates must be comparable to health care provided in the community in order to meet the state's legal obligation. This means that all types and levels of health care be provided in a clinically appropriate manner by properly credentialed professionals in settings equipped and designed for the delivery of health care. Health care includes medical, dental and psychiatric/mental health services.

According to DOC, health care costs represent 20 percent of cost-per-day, the second largest cost component after security and housing. Senate Bill 843 creates a work group to deliberate and develop recommendations that will transform the prison health care system.