## 77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY Senate Committee on Health Care & Human Services

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FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued	
Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Ye	as: Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson
Na	<b>ys:</b> 0
Ex	<b>c.:</b> 0
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/29

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Provides postpartum mother option for placenta removal from health care facility pursuant to rules adopted by Oregon Health Authority.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Legality of releasing biological waste
- Laboratory tests on placenta
- Parental notification
- Rulemaking process
- Current hospital procedure
- Need for clarification

## EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** In some cultures, there is a ritual conducted for the disposal of the placenta. Some Oregon hospitals have developed procedures to allow postpartum mothers to remove the placenta when they are discharged. State law outlines policies and procedures for the containment and treatment of biological waste, which includes placentas; however, it is unclear if removal of the placenta from a health care facility is legal.

House Bill 2612-A exempts placentas from the biological waste containment and treatment requirements and grants Oregon Health Authority to adopt rules to develop criteria for placenta removal from health care facilities.