

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass with Amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure. (Printed B-Engrossed)

Vote: 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson

Nays: 0

Exc.: Knopp

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/7, 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Department of Human Services (DHS) adopt by rule, using advisory committee, uniform standards for collection of data on race, ethnicity, preferred languages and disability status of public assistance recipients. Provides that necessary standards be based on local, statewide and national best practices for data collection. Allows OHA and DHS use such standards, to greatest extent practicable, in surveys conducted in all programs where OHA and DHS collects, records or reports such data. Requires report to appropriate Legislative committees on standards implementation. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for quality demographic data
- *State of Equity Report, Phase 1* findings
- Ability to lower healthcare costs and improve outcomes
- Importance of understanding Oregon's changing populations
- Consistent and accurate data important for under-served communities
- Proposed amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Expands to allow Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Department of Human Services (DHS) use the standards, to the greatest extent practicable, in surveys conducted in all programs where OHA and DHS collects, records or reports such data.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) states that disproportionate access to the health promoting benefits of society and the disproportionate distribution of burdens create racial and ethnic health inequities. OHA asserts that health equity is promoted by developing strategies specific to the unique needs of different population groups.

Additionally, proponents assert that more detailed and specific data would make delivery of health and human services more targeted, efficient and effective, and would lead to improved client outcomes. Improved data gathering standards would provide clarity, stability and consistency of the data pool and improve the ability of providers and policymakers to address existing and emerging disparities.

5/17/2013 11:38:00 AM

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