

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Buckley
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Winters

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure as Amended and as Printed B-Engrossed

Vote: 26 – 0 – 0

House

Yeas: Barker, Buckley, Frederick, Freeman, Hanna, Huffman, Jensen, Komp, McLane, Nathanson, Read, Richardson, Smith, Tomei, Williamson

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Girod, Hansell, Johnson, Monroe, Steiner Hayward, Thomsen, Whitsett, Winters

Nays:

Exc:

Prepared By: Kim To, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 14, 2013

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes and requires the Oregon Health Authority to certify mental health providers eligible for reimbursement from group health plans. The bill defines provider as a health care facility, residential facility, day or individual medical professional or a provider certified by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), and specifies that the intent of this bill is not to prohibit an insurer from requiring a provider organization certified by OHA to meet the insurer’s credentialing requirements as a condition of entering into a contract. The bill declares an emergency and is effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fiscal impact

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes “chemical dependency” from language regarding specialized programs for treatment to be certified by OHA under this bill.

BACKGROUND: In 2009, House Bill 2009 was enacted, which created the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and moved several of the state’s health programs which were previously under the Department of Human Services (DHS) under OHA. Prior to this separation, mental health outpatient clinics were certified by DHS. Since the separation, there has been no mechanism for these clinics to be certified by the state. With no certification, it is difficult for these clinics to receive compensation from insurers.

The measure requires OHA to create a certification process for providers not otherwise subject to certification or licensing, including mental health outpatient clinics.