

Senate Bill 168

Printed pursuant to Senate Interim Rule 213.28 by order of the President of the Senate in conformance with pre-session filing rules, indicating neither advocacy nor opposition on the part of the President (at the request of Senate Interim Committee on Health Care, Human Services and Rural Health Policy for Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon and Oregon Health Equity Alliance)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires Oregon Health Authority and Department of Human Services to adopt by rule uniform standards for collection of data on race, ethnicity and preferred languages of medical assistance recipients. Provides that standards must be based on local, statewide and national best practices for data collection. Requires report to appropriate committees of Legislative Assembly on implementation of standards.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to standards for collection of demographic data; and declaring an emergency.

2 Whereas the data collection standards used by state agencies are inconsistent and insufficient
3 to adequately assess the status and needs of Oregon's communities of color, and immigrant and
4 refugee communities; and
5

6 Whereas inadequate data collection standards make it difficult to analyze how race, ethnicity
7 and language impact individual and community health, making services more expensive and less ef-
8 fective in addressing community needs; and

9 Whereas improved data collection supports more effective interventions to address persistent
10 disparities and protects public entities from liabilities arising from violation of civil rights laws; and

11 Whereas improvements in data collection standards are needed to ensure state of the art, effi-
12 cient, uniform and consistent data collection by race, ethnicity and preferred language; now, there-
13 fore,

14 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

15 **SECTION 1. The Oregon Health Authority, in collaboration with the Department of Hu-**
16 **man Services, shall adopt by rule uniform standards, based on local, statewide and national**
17 **best practices, for the collection of data on the race, ethnicity and preferred spoken and**
18 **written languages of all recipients of medical assistance. The authority and the department**
19 **shall review and update the standards at least once every two years to ensure that the**
20 **standards are efficient, uniform and consistent with best practices.**

21 **SECTION 2. No later than February 1, 2014, the Oregon Health Authority and the De-**
22 **partment of Human Services shall report to the appropriate committees of the Legislative**
23 **Assembly in the manner provided in ORS 192.245 on the implementation of section 1 of this**
24 **2013 Act. The report must include, but is not limited to:**

25 (1) **A description of the uniform standards for data collection and the implementation of**
26 **the standards across all data systems; and**

27 (2) **The challenges to implementing systemwide standards.**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **SECTION 3. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
2 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect**
3 **on its passage.**

4
