Seventy-Seventh Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2014 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

Kim To
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Measure Description:

Requires Oregon Health Authority to commission independent study of costs and impacts of operating basic health program in Oregon.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

See Analysis

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

House Bill 4109 directs the Oregon Health Authority to commission an independent study on the feasibility of establishing the Basic Health Program (BHP) in Oregon. The BHP is an insurance affordability program, allowed in the Affordable Care Act (ACA), to make health insurance more accessible to lower income individuals who do not qualify for Medicaid. The bill specifies the requirements of the study, and directs OHA to report the study's findings to the Legislative Assembly by November 30, 2014. The bill takes effect on passage, and sunsets on January 2, 2015.

According to an estimate received from the Urban Institute, the contract fees needed by OHA for the study could range from \$55,000 to \$60,000. The OHA Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research would use existing resources to engage with Cover Oregon to manage the contract and oversee the study.