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# MEMORANDUM

Legislative Fiscal Office  
900 Court St. NE, Room H-178  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
Phone 503-986-1828  
FAX 503-373-7807

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**To:** Human Services Subcommittee of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means

**From:** Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office  
503-986-1866

**Date:** February 26, 2014

**Subject:** SB 1542-A  
Work Session Recommendations

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Under SB 1542-A, the Home Care Commission (budgeted within the Department of Human Services) will administer a program enabling private payers to buy home care services from the Commission's home care registry. Currently, only individuals covered by Medicaid may hire caregivers through the registry.

Under the program, the Commission will be responsible for a variety of tasks, including publicizing the registry, screening workers, setting standards, providing referrals, establishing rates, and paying wages. After start-up costs, the program is expected to be self-supporting; the bill allows the Commission to set consumer rates at levels that support recovering up to 107% of program costs.

The measure previously had hearings in the Senate Health Care and Human Services Committee on February 10 and 11, 2014.

For the 2013-15 biennium, the bill has a fiscal impact of just over \$1.2 million associated with start-up costs; the cost will be covered by a General Fund appropriation in the session budget reconciliation bill.

The recommendation is to amend the bill with the -A2 amendment and move the bill to the Full Committee on Joint Ways and Means.

## **Amendment**

The proposed -A2 amendment primarily reinforces the self-support expectation for the program and lays out steps for the Commission to take if revenues are insufficient to cover costs. It also keeps the home care worker classification subcommittee in place indefinitely and clarifies that health and safety standards established by the Commission will be in accordance with OR-OSHA standards.

**Motion: I move the -A2 amendment to SB 1542.**

**Measure as Modified**

The measure, as amended, is recommended to be moved to the Full Committee on Joint Ways and Means.

**Motion: I move SB 1542 to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means with a “do pass” recommendation, as amended.**

**Assignment of Carriers**

Full: \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> Chamber: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Chamber: \_\_\_\_\_