

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Greenlick
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Bates

Revenue:

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

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

Vote:

House

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

Prepared By: Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: March 6, 2014

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Prohibits insurer from denying reimbursement under health benefit plan for covered services provided to pre-adjudicated person in custody of a local supervisory authority. Requires insurer to reimburse local supervisory authority at no less than 115 percent of the Medicare rate for the services provided. The measure details specific rights and prohibitions of insurer related to reimbursements and services provided and prohibits a public body from paying plan premiums on behalf of a person in the custody of a local supervisory authority.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fiscal impact statement
- Effect of the amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: The B24 amendment is the combined B16 and B18 amendments. The B16 amendment removes sections of the B engrossed version of the bill that were added by the A4 (bio-similar product) and A12 (health insurance coverage exclusions work group) amendments. The B18 amendment replaces county sheriff with local supervisory authority (as defined in statute) in order to accommodate those Oregon counties where pre-adjudicated persons are held in the custody of a local supervisory authority designated by the board of county commissioners rather than the county sheriff. The B18 amendment also designates that the minimum reimbursement rate by 115 percent of the Medicare rate as opposed to the amount paid to out-of-network providers as contained in the engrossed bill.

BACKGROUND: Currently, when an individual is arrested, whether it is by the Oregon State Police, a city police officer or by a sheriff's deputy, these individuals are housed in the county jail. Sometimes the length of stay can be days, weeks, months and maybe years. Once these individuals are placed in custody, federal health care programs stop (Veterans Benefits, Medicaid, Medicare), state benefits stop (Oregon Health Plan) and private insurance coverage stops. This leaves the inmates health care costs to the public safety budget of the Office of Sheriff.

House Bill 4110-B prohibits private insurance companies from denying coverage or canceling a policy solely because the insured is in the custody of a county jail; and uses medical services such as emergency rooms, hospital beds, and outpatient services. In addition, the measure creates a work group to study exclusions and other limitations applicable to the coverage of certain groups or certain health services in the health insurance market and self-insured health plans in this state.