

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference

Vote: 7 - 1 - 1

Yeas: Clem, Harker, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Thompson, Greenlick

Nays: Conger

Exc.: Weidner

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to commission an independent study of costs and impacts of operating a basic health program in Oregon. Specifies the parameters of the study. Requires the report be submitted to the Legislative Assembly by November 30, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Basic Health Program state option under the Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- Increased accessibility for lower income individuals
- Washington state's success
- Concerns associated with current market transitions
- Importance of consumers having health care choices
- Basic Health Program requirements

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Affordable Care Act (ACA) offers states the option to implement the Basic Health Program (BHP). BHP gives states 95 percent of what the federal government would spend on tax credits and subsidies for out-of-pocket costs for two groups:

- Adults with income between 133 and 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL); and
- Legally resident immigrants with incomes below 133 percent FPL whose immigration status disqualifies them from federally matched Medicaid.