

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 8 - 0 - 1

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

Nays: 0

Exc.: Weidner

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to investigate if Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) would approve matching funds from federal Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to state expenditures for subsidizing health insurance costs on insurance provided by commercial insurer to eligible children for the Health Care for All Oregon Children Program. Directs OHA to report findings to interim health care committees by September 15, 2014.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Continuity of care
- Access barriers
- Background on transferring CHIP clients into commercial market
- Importance for families to have choices
- Concerns relating to the 200-300 percent federal poverty level

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides health coverage to approximately eight million children in families with incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid, but can't afford private coverage. Signed into law in 1997, CHIP provides federal matching funds to states to provide this coverage. Like Medicaid, CHIP is administered by the states, but is jointly funded by the federal government and states. The federal matching rate for state CHIP programs is typically about 15 percentage points higher than the Medicaid matching rate for that state (i.e., a state with a 50 percent Medicaid Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP) has an "enhanced" CHIP matching rate of 65 percent). Every state administers its own CHIP program with broad guidance from CMS.