

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: 2/17, 2/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of State Police and all sheriffs and municipal police departments to adopt written policies relating to missing vulnerable adults on or before January 1, 2015. Specifies that missing vulnerable adults include individuals impaired with mental condition, intellectual or developmental disability or brain injury. Requires Oregon Health Authority to request specified information from potential contractors and, if certain conditions are met, to request proposals to establish and operate systems and technologies designed to detect and prevent improper payments (e.g. fraud) in the state medical assistance programs. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Silver Alert Program
- Dementia and Alzheimer’s disease increasing
- The need for communities to respond to “wandering” individuals
- Law enforcement increased involvement in responding
- Process for searching for vulnerable adults varies from county to county
- Importance of prior planning and coordination

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Silver Alert program is a public notification system to broadcast information on missing persons, primarily seniors with Alzheimer’s Disease, dementia, or other mental disabilities, in order to aid in their return.

In 2011, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) implemented the Fraud Prevention Initiative, a tool to fight fraud and protect taxpayer dollars. The federal government estimates that state Medicaid programs attribute \$18 billion annually to fraud. Currently, the Medicaid practice is to pay claims as they are presented and attempt to recover overpayments or fraud later; this is referred to as the “pay and chase” model. Individuals state that it is more difficult to recover dollars than it is to deny initial payment claims. Currently, 17 states have introduced legislation with the intent to incorporate the latest technologies in preventing fraud and abuse before it occurs, which has the potential to save states money.

2/20/2014 11:01:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.