

**PRELIMINARY** STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

**SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:** None

**Action:**

**Vote:**

**Yeas:**

**Nays:**

**Exc.:**

**Prepared By:** Cheyenne Ross, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 2/10, 2/17

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Permits existing dental clinics for special needs children to be operated by charitable corporations, as specified. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Other alternatives considered
- Need for clinic to remain “unowned” or else operate at a loss
- Population served and types of services
- Support of Oregon Dental Association

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Current law generally requires dental clinics to be owned by dentists. Senate Bill 474 is a carve-out to permit a dental clinic owned by a nonprofit corporation to continue to operate. The Providence Specialty Pediatric Dental Clinic serves approximately 1400 children with developmental, medical, and behavioral disabilities. Diagnoses range from autism spectrum disorders, to cerebral palsy, to Down Syndrome, to anxiety disorders, and includes children who are medically fragile.

Senate Bill 474 provides an exception to the requirement that dentists own dental clinics, in order to permit a specialized clinic, owned by a charitable corporation, to continue to serve children with special needs.