

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Senate Health Care

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Permits dentists to administer immunizations against restrictable diseases. Allows Board of Dentistry to adopt rules pertaining to administration of immunizations by dentists. Adds Dentists to list of providers authorized to provide immunizations.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: ORS Chapter 798 allows physicians, or health care professionals acting within the scope of a physician’s or professional’s licensure, to provide immunization services or coordinate immunization services within a clinic, public health site, school, or other immunization site. Immunizations protect against infectious disease such as polio, measles, rubella, tetanus and meningococcal. Dentists are not permitted to administer vaccines under Oregon law.

Healthy People 2020, under the federal Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, provides 10-year goals and objectives to improve health. Among Healthy People objectives is to increase immunization rates and reduce preventable infectious diseases, reporting that 42,000 adults and 300 children in the United States die each year due to vaccine preventable diseases.

In 2009, following the outbreak in H1N1 related deaths, the governor of New York declared a state of emergency to allow dentists to administer vaccines which have been prescribed by physicians.