

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Cheyenne Ross, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 3/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Centralizes administration of Oregon Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Services Program (Program) in Office for Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing Services (Office) within Department of Human Services (DHS). Requires main office in Portland and satellite offices based on need. Requires DHS appoint Program manager with specified qualifications. Requires Program manager appoint specified staff for main office with certain qualifications. Requires DHS appoint advisory committee and administrative assistant. Specifies membership and functions of advisory committee. Requires DHS seek out all funding sources to support Office. Sets forth Office duties and functions. Requires Office prepare twice-yearly needs assessment and report to DHS, Governor, and Legislature. Specifies content of needs assessment.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

[-1 amendment] Adds definition of “deaf-blind.” Removes requirement for main and satellite offices. Removes requirement that Program manager appoint specific staff for main office. Modifies composition of advisory committee. Replaces requirement that DHS appoint specific administrative assistant for advisory committee with Office to provide support. Modifies Office duties and functions. Replaces twice-yearly assessment and reporting requirement with range between every two years at maximum or every five years at minimum. Requires establishment of system to track ADA compliance among agencies.

BACKGROUND: