

**Oregon Health Authority  
Prescription Drug Overdose**

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The Human Services Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Committee on Ways and Means approve the submission of a federal grant application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for up to \$1,000,000 per year for four years to reduce prescription drug overdose and abuse.

The goal of the grant is to enhance and maximize the state Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, and to implement community and insurer/health system interventions aimed at preventing prescription drug overdose and abuse.

The project expects to work with local opioid prescriber groups in five regions, including CCOs and health systems. Focus areas include: promote the use of the PDMP, change prescribing guidelines for chronic pain, remove methadone from preferred drug status for chronic pain, increase naloxone rescue in cases of overdose, and expand the access to medication-assisted treatment for opioid dependency.

A number of PDMP system improvements could increase both the use and usefulness of the system. These include ways to make the system easier to use, make data available more quickly, and provide notifications to providers.

No state matching funds are required for the grant, and there is no federal requirement for maintenance of effort. The agency expects to need two new limited duration positions to meet the requirements of the grant.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.