78th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2015 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 631

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Senate Health Care

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, statement not yet issued FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action: Vote:

Yeas: Nays: Exc.:

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates Health Care for All Oregon Board (board) to develop, implement and have oversight over Health Care for All Oregon Plan under Oregon Health Authority. Provides comprehensive health care coverage to individuals residing or working in Oregon. Requires supplanting coverage by private insurers for covered health services. Directs Public Employee's Benefit Board and Oregon Educators Benefit Board to offer supplemental health benefit plans to employees and requires public employees to be covered by Health Care for All Oregon Plan. Establishes Health Care for All Oregon fund. Establishes office of Health Care for All Oregon Ombudsmen. Requires board to establish regional planning boards to oversee allocation of resources in designated regions determined by board. Requires regional planning board to approve construction of health care facilities apart with exception of long-term care facilities. Authorizes Department of Human Services to approve certificate of need for long-term care facility. Eliminates Oregon Health Insurance Exchange Corporation. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

CARRIER:

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Publically financed single-payer health care describes a system in which the government pays all health care costs from a single insurance pool. The intent is to achieve universal health care coverage, ensuring that all people receive services they need, without financial hardship. The single-payer system also aims to reduce administrative costs and complexity for patients, providers, and health care entities by creating uniform payment schedules, benefit packages and billing processes. Vermont voted to implement a single-payer system in 2011 to be in place by 2017. Senate Bill 631 covers the same services for all people living or working in Oregon and is funded by income and employer payroll taxes. A Board of Governors (board) is responsible for plan oversight; the Oregon Health Authority administers the plan and oversees the board.