

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 03/06/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments, Be Printed Engrossed And Be Referred To Ways
And Means By Prior Reference.

Meeting Dates: 02/20, 03/06

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Buehler, Clem, Greenlick, Hayden, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Nosse, Weidner

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to seek out and apply for grants, gifts and contributions for, and to appropriate, moneys from the General Fund for, funding crisis intervention services and residential care for individuals with mental illness. Clarifies that community-based housing is for individuals with mental illness, addictions or co-occurring disorders. Specifies funding allocations. Directs OHA to convene a 13-member workgroup and specifies membership composition. Adds Housing and Community Services Department and acute psychiatric unit of community hospital representatives to the work group. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- 2014 Legislative incentive funding
- Positive impact of leveraging funds
- Increasing demand for mental illness housing
- Start-up funding
- Expand to other counties

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Allows OHA to seek out and apply for funding. Clarifies that community-based housing is for individuals with mental illness, addictions or co-occurring disorders. Specifies funding allocations. Adds Housing and Community Services Department and acute psychiatric unit of a community hospital representatives to the work group.

BACKGROUND:

The federal Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. § 3601-19) prohibits discrimination in housing practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, and disability. Housing discrimination is defined as treating an individual or a group of people differently than other people under the same or similar circumstances, or denying an individual or a group of people benefits or privileges provided to other people.

Independent and treatment housing for individuals living with mental illness is in short supply. During the 2014 Legislative Session, \$5 million was granted to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Oregon to provide incentive funding for developing new housing for individuals living with mental illness.

House Bill 2825-A continues the Oregon Community Development Project Fund and provides for expansion into additional Oregon communities.