

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Human Services and Housing

MEASURE: HB 2232 A
CARRIER: Rep. Taylor

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 03/20/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 02/20, 03/20

Vote:
Yeas: 8 - Buehler, Evans, Gallegos, Hayden, Keny-Guyer, Parrish, Stark, Taylor
Exc: 1 - Piluso

Prepared By: Robyn Johnson, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Department of Human Services (DHS) appoint advisory committee on coordination of statewide services for homeless and unaccompanied youth. Specifies committee role and composition. Requires DHS submit annual report to legislature by September 15. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Adverse Childhood Events among unaccompanied and homeless youth
- Systems planning among state and community agencies that serve unaccompanied and homeless youth
- Role of law enforcement in lives of unaccompanied and homeless youth

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Requires DHS to submit annual report to the legislature by September 15th.

BACKGROUND:

In the 2013-14 school year the Department of Education reported that 18,902 Oregon children were registered or reported homeless. Of those children, 3,028 were designated unaccompanied. Unaccompanied homeless and runaway children are more likely to become victims of sex trafficking or other crimes. A 2014 study and report by the Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs reports significant trauma is common among this population of children as measured by the Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) model. In 2011, legislation was adopted that made the DHS responsible for delivery of services to runaway and homeless youth.

House bill 2232-A creates an advisory committee to inform planning, policy development and procedures to coordinate services for homeless and runaway youth. DHS is directed to include stakeholders with expertise in housing, mental health, addiction, sex trafficking, child welfare and law enforcement.