

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/06/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Meeting Dates: 02/09, 02/11, 04/06

Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Knopp, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Shields, Steiner Hayward

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines small employer as an average of at least one but not more than 50 employees during preceding calendar year.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Oregon alignment with federal Affordable Care Act
- Challenge for consumers and carriers in 2013 when changes were made at the federal level
- Preparation for the next phase of federal Affordable Care Act
- Preparation for federal administrative rules

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Defines small employer as an average of at least one but not more than 50 employees during preceding calendar year.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, Oregon law (ORS 743.730) aligns with the 2016 federal definition of “small employer” under the Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 18024). The term “small employer” in a group health plan is defined as an employer who employs an average of at least one but not more than 100 employees on business days during the preceding calendar year and who employs at least one employee on the first day of the plan year. In the case of plan years beginning before January 1, 2016, states have the option of substituting 100 employees for 50 employees.