

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**House Committee On Health Care****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact**Action Date:** 04/15/15**Action:** Without Recommendation As To Passage And Be Referred To Ways And Means.**Meeting Dates:** 04/08, 04/15**Vote:**

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

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires private pay home care workers registered with the Oregon Home Care Commission (OHCC) to be subject to at least the same standards as licensed in-home care agencies. Requires OHCC to conduct periodic evaluations of private pay home care workers. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of consistent rules and standards for home care workers
- OHCC and private home care agencies
- Background on Home Care Commission
- Senate Bill 1542 (2014) expanded access to home care workers
- Review of the subcommittees established by the OHCC

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2000, the citizens of Oregon amended the State Constitution to create the Home Care Commission (Commission). The Commission is responsible for ensuring the quality of home care services that are funded by the Department of Human Services for seniors and people with disabilities. The Commission has four major responsibilities: to define the qualifications of home care workers; to create a statewide registry of home care workers; to provide training opportunities for home care workers and consumers; and to serve as the “employer of record” for the purposes of collective bargaining for home care workers whose pay comes from public funds.

Originally, only individuals on Medicaid were able to hire caregivers through the registry. However, in 2014, the Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 1542 which expanded the home care services registry for all Oregon seniors to access and hire caregivers.