

**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Health Care**

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 04/15/15

**Action:** Without Recommendation As To Passage, Refer To Ways And Means By  
Prior Reference.

**Meeting Dates:** 04/13, 04/15

**Vote:**

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

**Prepared By:** Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Creates the Rural Medicaid Access and Development Act to provide financial support to rural hospitals and health care providers and establishes primary care residency programs. Establishes the Rural Medicaid Access and Development Fund. Appropriates General Fund moneys to Oregon Health Authority.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Status of small and rural hospitals
- Review of 2014 hospital statistics
- Current budget issues
- Disparity among small and rural hospitals
- 2014 margin trends

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Currently, the Office of Rural Health helps communities address healthcare workforce shortages in Oregon's rural and underserved communities. They assist communities recruit and retain qualified and committed healthcare providers. As an incentive to new healthcare providers interested in practicing in rural and underserved areas, the Oregon Office of Rural Health administers two loan repayment programs. Whether you are a rural facility or an interested student or provider, the office provides information about the Oregon and Medicaid Primary Care Loan Repayment programs, as well as other loan repayment options.