

**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY****House Committee On Human Services and Housing****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact**Action Date:** 04/17/15**Action:** Do Pass As Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, And Bill Be Referred To Ways And Means.**Meeting Dates:** 04/06, 04/17**Vote:**

Yeas: 5 - Evans, Gallegos, Keny-Guyer, Piluso, Taylor

Nays: 4 - Buehler, Hayden, Parrish, Stark

**Prepared By:** Robyn Johnson, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Department of Human Services (DHS) to convene task force to study training of direct care staff supporting individuals with developmental disability. Outlines task force membership, topics for consideration and outcomes. Requires report to legislature by December 1, 2015. Sunsets December 31, 2015. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Establishing training standards for residential care staff
- Improving skill and quality of care for people with intellectual and developmental disability
- Workforce stabilization, staff retention and reducing staff attrition

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Replaces original measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

Adults and children with intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) may require support to meet their health and social needs in pursuit of living independently. To achieve this goal these Oregonians may seek in-home care or live in foster care homes, group homes or supported living centers. Each situation provides a mix of essential and optional services, and some individuals may require 24-hour monitoring and support to ensure health and safety. Foster care homes and group homes provide comprehensive services and are responsible for providing up to 24 hours of care, supervision, and training to individuals with developmental disabilities. Many of these facilities are operated by private, non-profit agencies; however some are operated by the state. These facilities are staffed by direct support professionals employed by community agencies under contract with the Department of Human Services and by personal support workers hired directly by an individual with disabilities. There is not currently a license requirement for these types of workers, and no express standard of training.

House Bill 2756-A creates a task force to evaluate existing research and tools in order to develop standards that increase skills and knowledge for residential care staff in variety of supported residential settings, and to stabilize and improve the quality of care for residents.