

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/20/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 02/20, 04/20

Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Clem, Greenlick, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Nosse

Nays: 4 - Buehler, Hayden, Kennemer, Weidner

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Department of Human Services to establish, by administrative rule, the responsibilities of a case manager who receives notice of a life-sustaining procedure for an individual, for withholding or withdrawing those life-sustaining procedures. Requires that notification to the person designated as the health care representative of any knowledge, documentation or other information be included in the administrative rule.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Life-sustaining decisions for individuals that don't have an appointed health care representative
- Unclear what a case manager's duties are upon receipt of a life-sustaining procedure
- Case manager's involvement with individual's care
- Physician's role in determining who to contact
- Case managers are notified not consulted

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Requires that notification to the person designated as the health care representative of any knowledge, documentation, or other information be included in the administrative rule.

BACKGROUND:

Current Oregon law (ORS 127.635) outlines life-sustaining procedures and steps to be taken in determining who may decide whether to remove life-sustaining efforts from an incapable adult. Once the responsible decision-maker is determined, the physician may proceed only after the Department of Human Services (DHS) case manager is given notice. However, it is currently unclear what the case manager is expected to do upon receiving the notice.

House Bill 2369-A requires DHS to outline this process through administrative rule.