

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER: Sen. Kruse

Senate Committee On Health Care

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/22/15

Action: Do Pass The A-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 04/22

Vote:

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

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates standards for insurers' provider networks. Clarifies that adequacy requirements apply on a plan-specific basis. Grants Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) rulemaking authority and specifies that rules relating to provider non-discrimination must align with federal requirements. Requires insurers to submit an annual report to DCBS demonstrating how the insurers' provider networks meet requirements. Clarifies that the categories to be used in evaluating network adequacy are to use the factor-based approach, that categories are to be established in statute and that the factors are to be established by rule. Establishes conditions under which DCBS is allowed to access insurers' provider contracts. Establishes operative date on or after January 1, 2017.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Definition of transparency
- Availability of consumers to make purchasing choices
- Difficulty people have navigating networks
- Midwife access to reimbursement
- Application to commercial versus other plans

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, qualified health plans sold through the insurance exchange are required to meet minimum standards established by the Affordable Care Act (ACA), including required standards for health care network adequacy. These plans are regulated by the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), Insurance Division. Oregon law does not meet federal minimum requirements under the ACA and does not grant DCBS authority to establish and enforce provisions to ensure consumers have adequate access to appropriate care. House Bill 2468-A establishes standards applicable to individual and small-group commercial health benefit plans providing coverage through provider networks to ensure consumers have adequate access to care and online or printed access to provider directories.